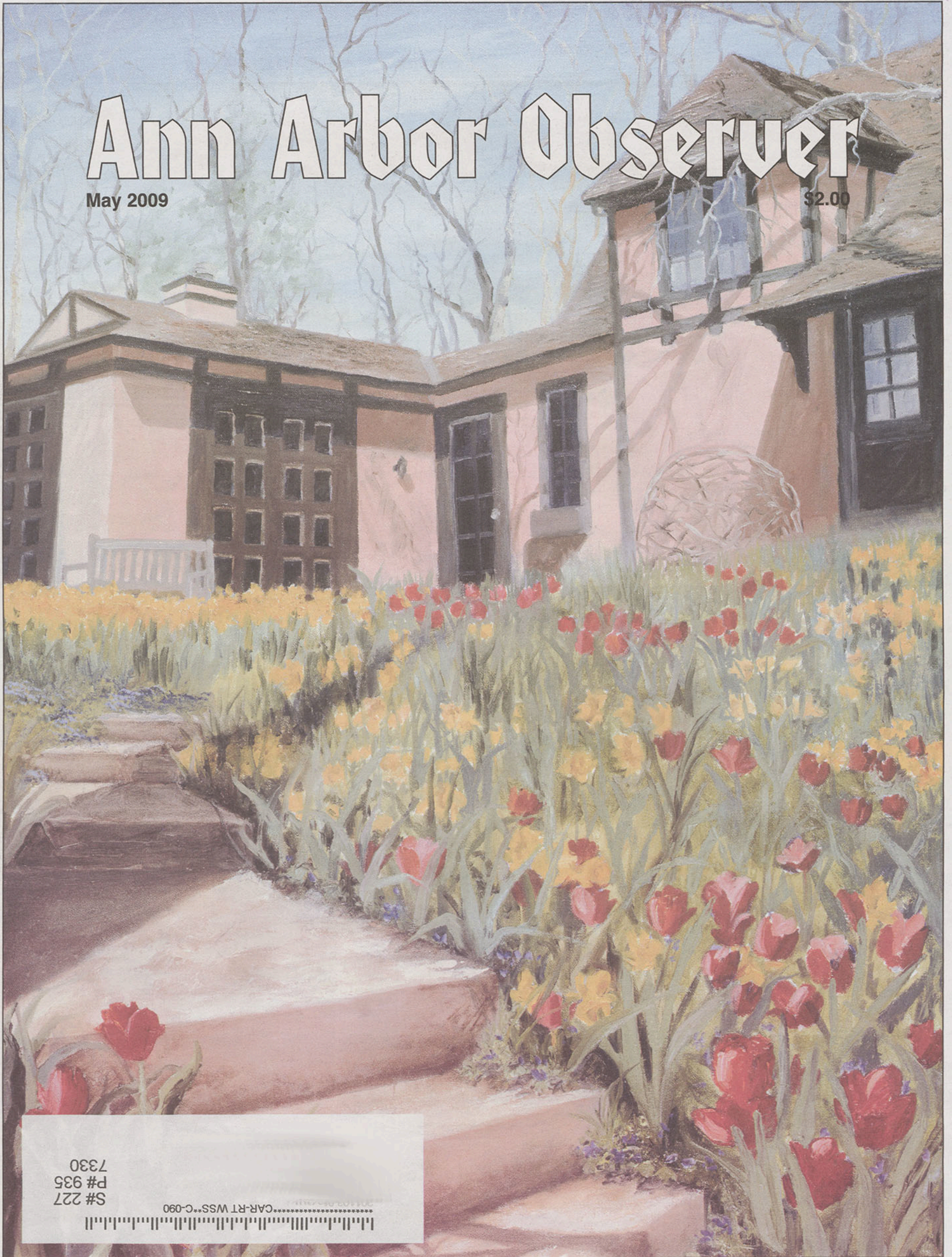


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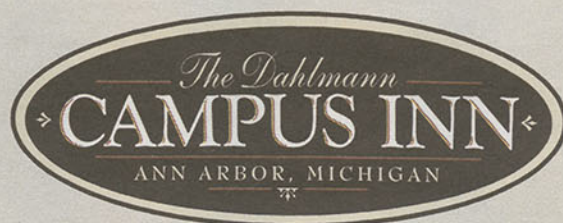
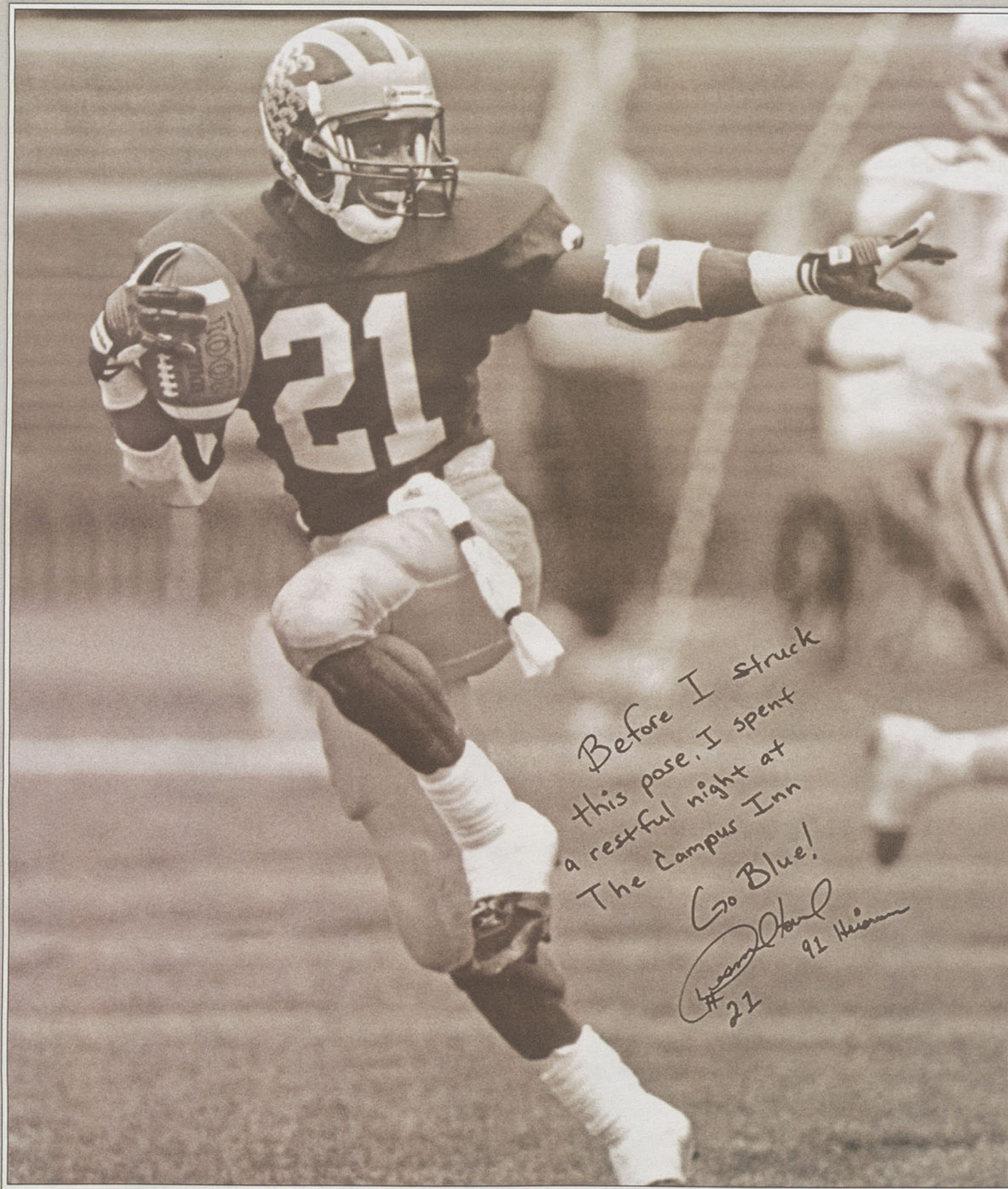
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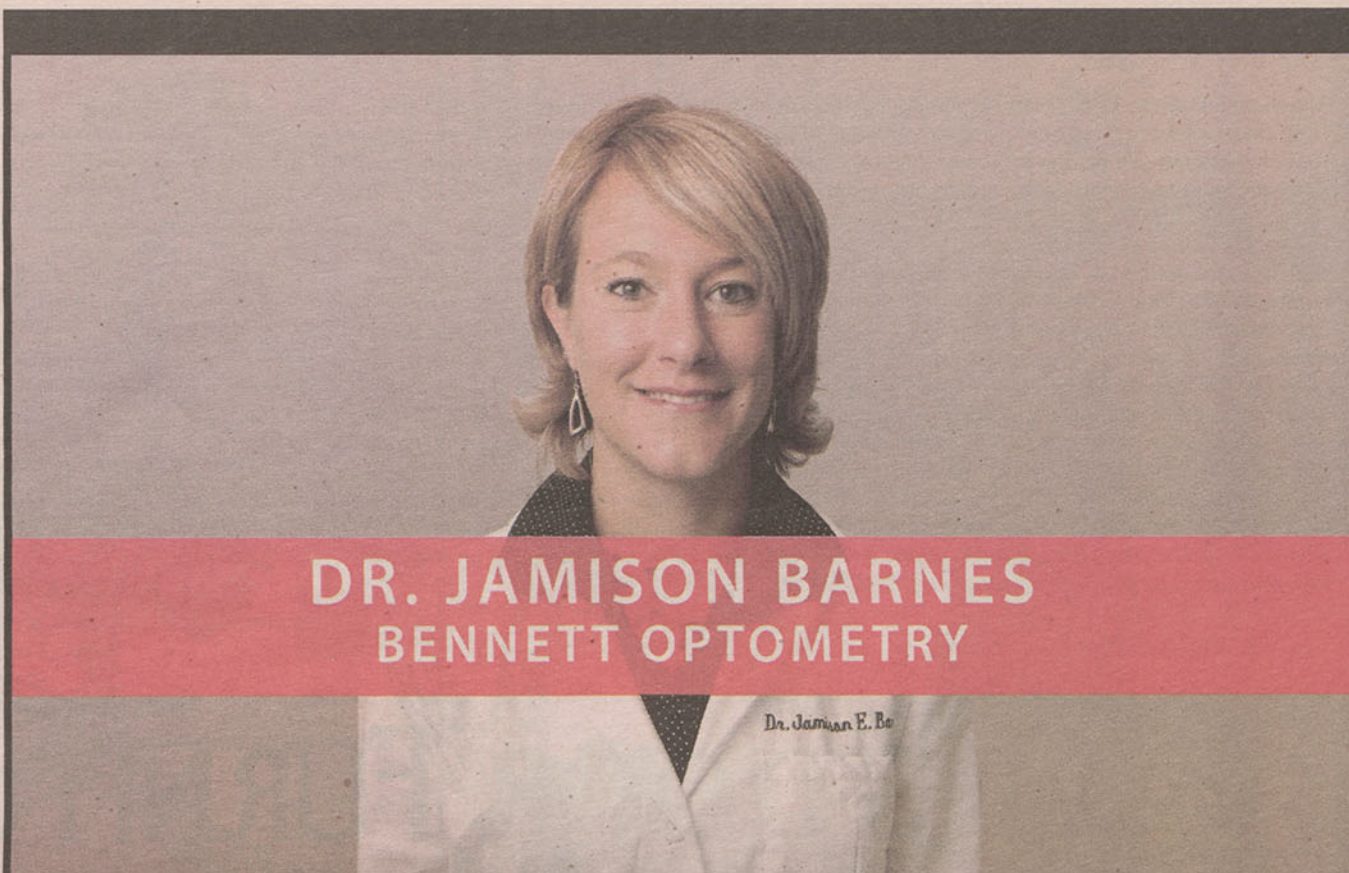
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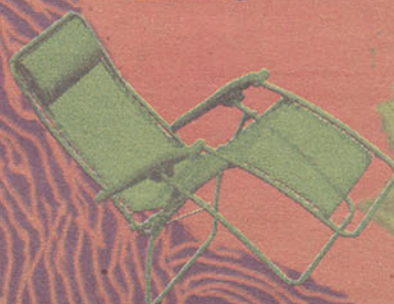
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Observer revenue is down significantly, as it is for almost all Michigan businesses, forcing a recent staff reduction. Despite the challenges in the economy and in our industry, we will continue to work hard to make both our print and online publications the best they can be.

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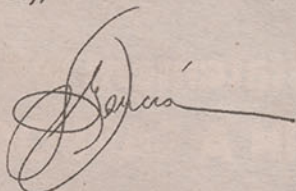
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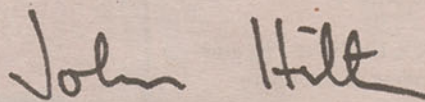
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Safe as houses: A philanthropist who lost megabucks in the Bernie Madoff scam has found a more tangible investment: homes in Ann Arbor Hills. The Observer has learned that at least four houses in the affluent east-side neighborhood have been purchased by a company owned by Jeanne Levy-Church, whose late father, Norman E. Levy, was a close friend of the now-infamous financier. Levy-Church and her husband, Ken, were big-league donors. They funded a foundation that aided ex-prisoners to the tune of \$30 million a year and planned to distribute another \$15 million to \$20 million annually in grants through their new Ann Arbor-based Fair Food Foundation. But all the foundations' funds were "invested" with Madoff, and after his Ponzi scheme collapsed last fall, the Levy-Churches announced that both would close (though the Fair Food Foundation subsequently reinvented itself as the lower-budget Fair Food Project).

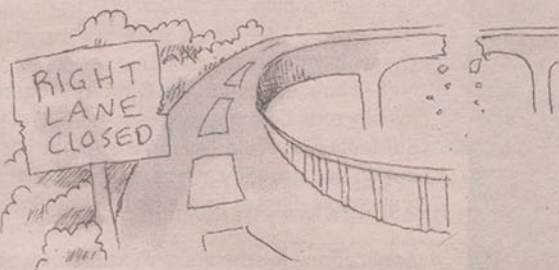
After Bernie Madoff, even depreciating real estate may look like a good buy. Why the Levy-Churches chose Ann Arbor is unclear, though Ken, a former history professor in New York, is a U-M alumnus. The couple are said to be living at least occasionally in one of the homes. Ken Levy-Church declined to be interviewed, saying they have "a lot on our plate right now" and want to "keep a low profile." One source, though, says that the Levy-Churches have done a "huge amount of remodeling" in at least one of the houses. And they pleased some bemused neighbors last Christmas by bringing them big baskets of fruit.

Snooze election: What if they held an election and nobody came? That's the situation for the school board vote scheduled for Tuesday, May 5. Incumbents Glenn Nelson and Irene Patalan are unopposed for new four-year terms. Board president Karen Cross is stepping down, leaving an open two-year seat, but only two candidates filed for it—and one of them, U-M grad student Adam Hollier, has withdrawn. Though Hollier remains on the ballot, that leaves an open path for engineer-attorney Ravi Nigam.

The seven board members will have plenty to worry about: with state funding flat and teacher salaries and health care costs still climbing, the schools face a growing structural deficit. The AAPS cut \$14 million in costs over the last three years, mostly through staff reductions, yet the district still faces a projected deficit

of \$6 million next year—rising to \$12 million by the 2011-12 school year.

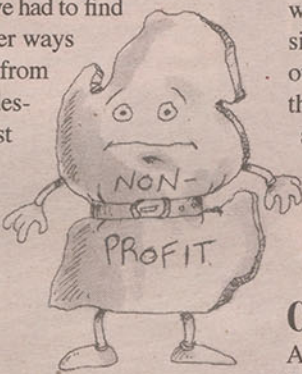
Stimulating bridges: Will the feds pay for new bridges on East Stadium Boulevard? Homayoon Pirooz, head of the city's Public Services Department, sure hopes so. He points out that January's economic stimulus bill includes "\$1.5 billion for surface transportation infrastructure capital improvements." The city needs to snag \$24 million of it to replace the paired



bridges just east of Michigan Stadium. The bridge over South State dates to 1917, and its twin over the Ann Arbor Railroad was built in 1928. They're in such terrible shape that two of the four lanes were shut down in March to ease the load on them. The city is working on designs for replacements, and Pirooz says he thinks "our chances of qualifying for the discretionary fund or some other federal funds are relatively good." If so, he says, the feds "will pay for the entire project cost." If not, the current traffic headache could become a long-term financial pain: if the feds don't foot the \$24 million bill, Pirooz says, the city will have to "begin an open dialogue about how to locally fund the construction of the project."

PerfNet bailout: Cash-strapped Michigan nonprofits have had to find increasingly clever ways to wring money from an increasingly destitute public. Last month, Performance Network, in obvious desperation, tried an approach that was refreshingly simple—you might call it the "ransom note" strategy. On April 8, Ann Arbor's professional theater sent out a press release announcing that it would have to close if it didn't raise \$40,000 in the next week.

"Within minutes of sending out that email press release, we got three or four calls from the *Ann Arbor News*, says marketing director Janet Torno. It was front-page, above-the-fold news—and by April 14, the theater had pledges in hand for \$60,000. Torno hastens to explain that some of the money isn't in hand yet and that half will be in matching funds. Still, she's satisfied with the campaign, which turned conventional fundraising wisdom on its head: "We used to say it was eighty-



twenty, meaning you get eighty percent of your contributions from twenty percent of your donors. In the last week, we've gotten fifteen times as much money from the low end as from the high end." The bailout gives the theater at least a six-month reprieve.

Journalists' haven: In the nightmarish milieu of twenty-first-century journalism, the Knight Wallace Fellowship is a sweet dream: a \$70,000 stipend, a chance to study whatever you want at the U-M, lots of schmoozing, and even some expense-paid travel to visit journalists in places like New York, Buenos Aires, and Istanbul. So it's no wonder that 193 people applied for the twenty-two slots available this fall—twice as many as last year. Longtime director Charles Eisendrath says the quality of the applicants "was better than we've ever seen"—but reflecting the cutbacks at newspapers and broadcast networks, he's seeing "a lot more freelancers, people who work for the dot-coms, people who want to retol."

Of course, the eight-month program is only a temporary shelter. When he started his fellowship last year, says Geoff Larcom, the *Ann Arbor News* reporter and columnist, "I had no idea the paper was going to fold." But while he's sweating about his future, he has no regrets about the fellowship—for someone who's spent his career covering his hometown, the chance to travel and meet journalists around the world offered an experience "so far outside the realm of life in Ann Arbor." Another current fellow, Kim Kozlowski of the *Detroit News*, "was terribly worried" about her job, Eisendrath says. But not only do her bosses want her back, they are expanding her beat to "covering all of science." Even in journalism, says Eisendrath, "it's not all bleak."

Classics at the City Club: When Ann Arbor City Club dropped "Women's" from its name in January 2008, management hosted a focus group to learn "what the guys want," says member Jeff DeBoer. Now they're getting their top priority: a car show—the first ever at the gracious Washtenaw Avenue landmark. DeBoer says they'll have space for fifty vintage and classic machines and says the selection committee won't be "too picky-choosy." (The first three cars promised were a 1969 red Triumph, a 2000 black Viper, and a 1929 green air-cooled Franklin.) General manager Mark Easton says the May 23 show (see Events, p. 43) is part of a campaign to attract more men to the formerly female fortress. Fifteen months after the name change, the club counts fifty men as members—and 409 women.



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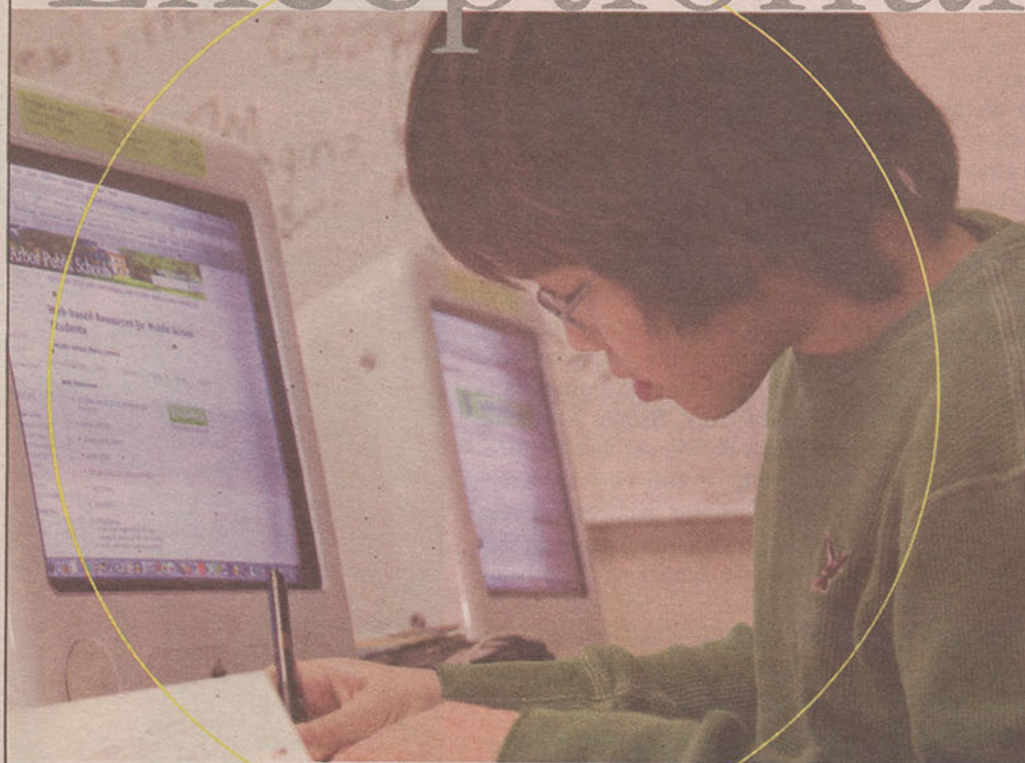
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Applications for the 2009-10 academic year will be accepted from May 6-22 and are available at Community High School (401 N. Division), Balas Administration Building (2555 S. State) and online at www.aaps.k12.mi.us. Learn more by attending Informational Night, Wednesday, May 6, beginning at 7 p.m. in Community High's Craft Theater or by contacting Ann Arbor Options Program Coordinator Susette Jaquette at 994-2026 or jaquette@aaps.k12.mi.us.

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Inside Ann Arbor

The Big Chill

"I have been looking for a job since I got back to school this fall and have yet to find one," says 2009 grad Mallory Bradford.

There's a lot of anxiety," says Bradford. "I worked so hard to get where I am. I'm at the U-M. My GPA's pretty good. I'm in this specialized program"—organizational studies, an interdisciplinary program that's prepared her to do analysis or research for a large organization.

When the economy tanked last fall, Bradford says, firms visiting Ann Arbor began interviewing a lot fewer people than they usually do. She broadened her search beyond her native Chicago and branched out from corporations to NGOs and nonprofits. She's emailed at least fifty resumes, plus calling numerous family friends and potential contacts—all, so far, without success.

Bradford is far from alone. The six women with whom she shared a house on Oakland also are graduating this spring—and by mid-April, only one had landed a professional job. Another will go to grad school, and the remaining five, including Bradford, are still looking.

"Unless you lived through the Great Depression, you haven't begun to see a thing that has approached this," says Al Cotrone, career services director at the U-M business school. Last year at this time, 234 out of about 325 students graduating with BBAs had been offered jobs, says Cotrone. This year it's dropped 27 percent, to 170. "The banking industry crisis has affected the undergrads disproportionately," says Cotrone. The banks that recruited at Michigan last fall interviewed only half as many students as in years past.

Native Ann Arborite Dhruv Menawat was one of the lucky ones—the economics and physics major nabbed a position in sales and trading at JPMorgan Chase. But "it's a very, very tough year," says Menawat, a peer counselor at U-M's career planning office. "So many are looking for jobs."

Economics major Rebecca Koke got a job with Liberty Mutual in Boston—something she attributes, in part, to spending hours researching the company. But her ten closest friends, she says, have yet to find jobs. Many are now planning on law school instead.

More members of the Class of 2009 are considering public service. U-M has



Mallory Bradford and five of her six graduating housemates are still looking for work.

always been one of the biggest feeders for Teach for America, which places recent grads in "under-resourced" schools for two years. This year, a record 412 stu-

dents applied for the program—8 percent of the entire senior class. Although Teach for America spokesman Trevor Stutz would rather play up the idealistic aspect, he acknowledges, "I think the economy is certainly having an impact" on the surge in applications.

Teach for America "wasn't my first thought," admits

Lindy Stevens, a Michigan Daily writer and editor. She'd have preferred a job in journalism—but the media have been hit even harder than the banks. One of eighty U-M grads accepted by Teach for America, Stevens will be teaching in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this fall.

Medical Marijuana

After twenty-eight years, Renee Wolf has become legit.

On April 6, Renee Wolf was chauffeured to suburban Lansing. At a cyber cafe there, she and others boarded a bus to the Michigan Department of Health. She rolled into the building in her wheelchair, deposited some forms in a box, and officially applied for a permit to grow twelve marijuana plants.

"It was an arduous jour-

ney, to say the least," says Wolf. She's talking not about the trip to Lansing, but the road to legalizing medical marijuana in Michigan. Wolf, forty-nine, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in the early 1980s, shortly before she received her criminology degree from EMU. She says she found that smoking marijuana enabled her to tolerate her disease with a degree of comfort. It also, she says, got her arrested "several times."

The mother of two bright preteen boys, with a frequent smile that reveals a missing molar, Wolf lives in a casually maintained modular home in Scio Farms. She proudly recalls that she was named "Freedom Fighter of the Month" by *High Times* magazine in 1996, after she made a wheelchair pilgrimage from Taylor to Lansing to petition the state to allow her to use marijuana legally. The voters finally agreed last November, when they passed the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act.

"Renee Emry Wolfe really re-established a paradigm for grassroots activism across America," says Saginaw attorney Greg Schmid, a longtime advocate of legalized marijuana, "and her compelling story is a major reason why funders took on the huge challenge of a medicinal marijuana petition initiative in the state of Michigan. Michigan's high signature thresholds have always made us appear a bridge too far for initiative strategists. Renee served the role of 'equalizer' in the public debate on medical marijuana."

"The police have said, 'Shhhhh... don't make a fuss,'" says Wolf of her advocacy. "But I want to make a fuss. I want people to know that the herb helps me."



MS patient Renee Wolf helped inspire last fall's medical marijuana initiative. Now she's one of the first to apply for a state permit to grow her own pot.

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Calendar of Events

May 2009

Kerrytown Market & Shops

MAY

2

3

HOLLANDER'S KITCHEN & HOME
Grand Opening
Saturday & Sunday
May 2nd & 3rd

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ELECTRICS,
COOKWARE,
& GADGETS

10% OFF STOREWIDE
UPSTAIRS & DOWN
MERCHANDISE
DRAWINGS

upstairs

Workshop at Hollander's: The Stilt Book

Sunday May 3rd, 11 to 4

Fee: \$100

Darcy Bowden shares an original design of an accordion book suspended on a series of stilts. The cover and text pages will be embellished using collage and rubber stamps.

6



Farmer's Market Opens on Wednesdays!

Starting May 6th, 7am to 3pm

The Ann Arbor Farmers Market features locally grown food, plants, prepared food items, and handcrafts, all sold by the wonderful people who make them. Located in the historic Kerrytown District, in the open-air marketplace.

MAY'S FEATURED MERCHANTS:

Encore Studio Champagne Saturdays in May

Starting Sat. May 2nd, 9am to 6pm
Come in and enjoy **FREE** champagne with strawberries every Saturday in May.

More May Values

Throughout May- Purchase a gift certificate of \$50 and receive a **FREE GIFT** of nail and skin care. Purchase \$100 or more and receive a Dermalogica stress relief or travel kit (up to \$53 value)

FOUND Gift Certificate

UM Students get a \$5 FOUND Gift Card with \$30 purchase. Go to www.studentrate.com to print coupon. 1 per student, per semester.

Spice Merchants Features "Discovering Spice"

Saturdays May 9th, 23rd and 30th, 11 am to 5pm

Learn how to incorporate exotic and aromatic spices into everyday cooking. We'll share seasoning tips & recipe ideas, to make your meal or event extraordinary.

Mudpuddles May Play

The great weather is back! Come to Mudpuddles for a new kite, a jump rope or a tricycle. We've got marbles, yo-yos and Frisbees to help fill your days with good active fun.

MAY

9

10

Mother Fest



PHOTOGRAPHY: MYRA KLARMAN

Whether you're a mom, a mom-to-be, or with your Mom, join us as we celebrate Mother's Day weekend.

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH

Free Portraits- 10am to 1pm

in Farmer's Market
Portrait photographer Myra Klarman captures the fun with complimentary prints that will be posted for the taking.

Music in the Courtyard- 11am to 2pm

The Award Winning Lonesome County Band will fill our courtyard with foot tappin' real drive, real bluegrass, second to none! Free.

Button Flowers for Mom!- at FOUND, 10am to 11am

Kids can make a pretty little flower posy out of vintage buttons. All materials provided. Free.

Live Music- at Elephant Ears, 10 to 11am

Live children's music performances provided by performers from Kerrytown Concert House. Free.

Artist's Wanted!- at Elephant Ears, 11 to 2pm

Children can come and decorate a reusable cotton tote bag to give to mom for Mother's Day. All materials are free while supplies last! Table will be set up outside of Elephant Ears.

SUNDAY, MAY 10TH

Mother's Day Brunch and Dinner- at eve the restaurant

Sunday Brunch 11-2 and Dinner from 5-9

Celebrate spring with seasonal delicacies. Call for reservations or visit our website, www.evethe restaurant.com

Workshop at Hollander's: Embossed Leather Journal

Saturday & Sunday May 16th and 17th, 10 to 5

Fee: \$235

Participants in this workshop will have the opportunity to make embossed and painted leather covers of their own design. You will work with linocuts to make the embossing plates, and then further enhance the designs with painting and other surface treatments. All levels are welcome.

Workshop at FOUND: Party Blooms!

Saturday & Sunday May 17th, 1 to 3pm

Learn to make whimsical party favors in the workshop taught by artist Stephanie Scigliano. Perfect for wedding or baby showers, birthday parties or as a special little gift to a friend. Info & registration at FOUND or foundgallery.com

Workshop at Hollander's: Tools and Tricks of Bookbinders

Saturday & Sunday May 23rd and 24th, 10 to 5

Fee: \$225

Learn to make a variety of personalized tools for bookbinding. In addition, many tips and tricks will be offered including various ways to miter corners; clever ways to fold concertinas; inventive ways to stitch sections; different ways to prep text blocks; jigs for scoring, tearing, and punching, etc.

Workshop at FOUND: Celebration Cake Topper

Sunday May 31st, 1 to 3pm

Make a festive cake topper that can be used over and over again. Presented by Artist Stephanie Scigliano at FOUND. Details & registration at FOUND or foundgallery.com

Mon-Friday 8am to 7pm • 2nd floor merchants open at 10am

Sat 7am to 6pm • 2nd floor merchants open at 9am

Sun 9am to 6pm • 2nd floor merchants open at 11am

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MARK BIALEK

Mike Bellaire delivers the mail in Orchard Hills. With volume down 15 percent this year, two northside routes have been eliminated.

"Students still get all their packages, and that's a heavy volume," Alt explains. Plus, he points out, "Carriers still have to go to the house, whether it's one piece or three pieces."

Ann Arbor's other delivery zip codes, 48103, 48104, and 48108, were evaluated last year. No routes were eliminated, but several were made more efficient, says Alt. Even the 48105 cuts were made by attrition—there were no layoffs or forced retirements. "Actually we're under our complement right now," says Alt. "We're in the process of trying to get bodies in here."

Despite the streamlining, the postal service is projecting a \$6 billion deficit in 2010. "The gap between revenue and costs has become a chasm, widening each day," postal service head John Potter told Congress in January. Potter warned that the next cost-cutting move could be to eliminate Saturday delivery.

Eliminating and consolidating services is one way for the postal service to balance its budget; another is to raise prices. On May 11, the price for a first-class stamp will increase from 42¢ to 44¢. Prices for other mailing services will also increase.

Shakeup in 48105

Less mail means fewer carriers on the north side.

The Green Road post office in northeast Ann Arbor eliminated two delivery routes in March. After an evaluation that included counting every piece of mail handled and every step walked, the thirty-one remaining routes were "squared up" to even out workloads, says Rob Alt, Green Road's manager of customer service.

"Customers who used to get their mail in the morning may get it in the afternoon if they were on one of the routes eliminated," says Alt. Carrier assignments in other neighborhoods may change, too. Some collection boxes are slated for elimination, and the posted pickup times at many of the remaining collection boxes will change.

Ann Arbor's mail volume has fallen about 15 percent in the past year, Alt says. Despite the town's wired reputation, that's significantly less than the national decline of 22 percent.

Tim Athan Life in Ann Arbor

Muskegon Mon Amour

Wolvyywood!

question corner

Q: Several stoplights seem now to be out of sync with the pedestrian crossing signal. For instance, when you are headed west on William and waiting for the light at Main Street, pedestrians get the white OK-to-cross sign while the traffic signal is still red.

A: Some intersections recently got Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) signal timing, which allows pedestrians to enter the crosswalk before drivers get a green light. The idea is to make them more visible to turning motorists.

LPI is also in use at Catherine and Glen (where a turning bus killed a pedestrian several years ago), at three intersections on S. State near campus (at

William, Liberty, and North University), at Liberty and Thompson, and at Pauline and Stadium.

Q: Do you know anything about the candles at the corner of Washtenaw and Golfside?

A: Candles, teddy bears, and plastic flowers decorate a metal post at the corner of a trashy, abandoned lot. Notes written on the post in marker, now almost illegible, indicate the site is a memorial for twenty-four-year-old Brendon Preslar of Ann Arbor. Late in the night last August he ran a red light on his motorcycle and crashed into a car. His life ended at this spot.

Got a question?
Email question@aaobserver.com.

HILLIARD LYONS

"A hero is someone who has given his or her life for something bigger than oneself." - Joseph Campbell

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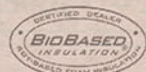
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Inside Ann Arbor *continued*



COURTESY OZONE HOUSE

The annual Ozone House Prom Exchange connects high school students with lightly used clothes from parties past.

Prom Exchange

Ozone House is playing fairy godmother for local prom-goers again this year.

A group of girls examine a rack of brightly colored prom dresses, laughing and talking. It's a familiar scene during prom season—except that none of these dresses have price tags and they're displayed not in a store, but in a balloon-festooned room at Ozone House on Washtenaw.

Ozone House is a nonprofit that provides temporary housing and other help to adolescents—and, once a year, organizes a "prom exchange." (This year's was being held on April 27 and 28.) Past prom-goers donate the nearly new clothes; sorority members have been particularly generous, says staff member Susan Kirtz. Ozone then gives the dresses to kids who might not have \$75 or more to spend on a dress that's worn only once.

At last year's exchange, two Ypsilanti High School students, Shirley and Keisha, looked critically at a black sequined strapless gown while surprisingly old-fashioned music—"As Time Goes By," "There's No Business Like Show Business"—played in the background. "The really nice ones are too expensive" at stores, said Shirley, who learned about the prom exchange through an announcement at school. Nearby, a Pioneer High student wearing a blue satin head scarf explained that she'd be going to the prom with a group of girls; because her religion forbids showing cleavage, she planned to cover her breasts with a shawl. Another girl with a headscarf, a Pioneer exchange student from Indonesia, was also looking at gowns. "Mom, what do you think?" she asked her American host mother.

By the time the three-hour shop-

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- Fun for kids of all ages hosted by the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum
- Cash beer and wine

To purchase tickets visit our website at www.foodgatherers.org or call us at 734-761-2796.

Additional ticket sales locations: Zingerman's (Deli, Bakehouse or Roadhouse) in Ann Arbor, as well as Saline Picture Frame Co. and Dexter Picture Frame Co.

Tickets:

\$50/Adults (\$45 tax-deductible)
\$10/Kids (\$8 tax-deductible)

Tickets at the door:

\$60 Adults/\$10 Kids

Event location:

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
5055 Ann Arbor Saline Rd.



Food Gatherers is the not-for-profit food rescue and food bank program serving Washtenaw County.

ping spree was over, forty kids left with gowns, shoes, or accessories such as scarves or hats. Twenty-five more attended a second exchange at Ozone's drop-in center in Ypsilanti.

One of the teens shopping last year was obviously pregnant. To help keep prom night safe, Ozone House offers an additional gift: packages of individually wrapped, brightly colored condoms.

calls & letters

(Not So) Pricey Parking

DDA executive director Susan Polay posted a correction on arborweb.com to the online version of our story on the DDA's planned "library lot" underground parking structure (Inside Ann Arbor, April). We'd divided the \$50 million project budget by the 485 spaces gained and calculated that each new spot would cost more than \$100,000. However, Polay pointed out, that budget "involves much more than a parking structure. It also includes two new water mains under Fifth and Division, a new downtown street, a new alley with electrical transformers, and structural capacity built into the parking structure to accommodate whatever might eventually be constructed on top. Seventy-five percent of the \$50 million project cost is parking structure, 25 percent is infrastructure investment." Dividing the parking cost of \$37.5 million by all 650 spaces in the new structure, Polay calculated, "the cost for the underground parking is closer to \$58,000/car space."

Dogs vs. Cats

Jeff Mortimer's April My Town column on his overly protective cats touched a nerve with local dog lovers. "Am I the only one who sees a double standard here?" asked Carol Mousigian by email. "How would this article be received if the man was walking with, say, his two toy poodles off leash and he expected all the other dog walkers to avoid him and his charges?"

D.M. LaVoie answered Mousigian's question: "If I were to walk my dogs without a leash I would receive a ticket," she emailed. "If my dogs were to attack another, with or without a leash, I would expect legal action. . . . The arrogance of this man truly upsets me. The fact that this paper publishes an article indulging him astonishes me."

We invited Mortimer to respond. "The point was that their behavior was utterly out of character and only explained by their instinct to defend me," he explained, "which overcame their natural instinct to flee or freeze at the sight of dogs. . . . If my cats had had a history of attacking dogs—or anyone else—willy-nilly, I certainly wouldn't go for walks with them, or even let them out of the house."

Laid off—again

In our April feature on people who've repeatedly lost jobs, Madeleine Borthwick was the inspiring exception—she'd found a new position after almost a year

of unemployment. But we described an earlier job loss incorrectly. In a phone call, Borthwick pointed out that the complaint that led to her firing from Republic Parking came from a coworker, not a customer.

Masons and Volvos

"I appreciated the [April] article about the Masons in Ann Arbor," emailed Tom Jameson. "I've been a Mason since 1956 and joined Golden Rule Lodge in 1960, so I was privileged to have been here for a few years when the downtown temple was standing. I wish I could have seen it in its full splendor, before the lower floors were chopped up to accommodate renters. We have been told that the magnificent auditorium on the first floor was the site of many extravaganzas, including at one point even a circus, with a live elephant on stage. The pipe organ in the fourth floor Masonic Hall, which I played on occasion, was disassembled, stored in pieces for several years and later reassembled and is in use at the Northside Community Church on Barton Drive."

"Finally, in the Closings section [of Marketplace Changes, April], the article about Dream On Futon describes the property as originally a Sears tire store," Jameson continued. "Actually, I purchased my first brand new car there in 1959, when it was a Volvo dealership. I forget the owner's name, but his brother had the Volvo dealership in Ypsilanti."

Realtors and ZIP codes

Matt Dejanovich of Real Estate One called to dispute the way we compiled our tables of the top-selling Realtors of 2008 (Home Sales Map, April). Though Dejanovich finished well in our comparison of sales within the Ann Arbor school district (thirteenth in number of sales and sixth in dollar value), he argued that he'd have done even better if, like the Home Sales Map, the tables included sales of homes outside the school district that have Ann Arbor mailing addresses.

Recalculating the tables to include sales within the Ann Arbor ZIP codes confirmed Dejanovich was right. In this survey, he moved up six places in units sold, to seventh, and two places in value, to fourth. Two other agents also made big gains: Susan Fecteau of Tree House Realty Group climbed four places in units, to sixth, and two in value, to sixteenth. And Reinhart's Pat Mueller, who works in association with Fecteau, vaulted all the way from twenty-second in the school district unit count to ninth in the ZIP code table.



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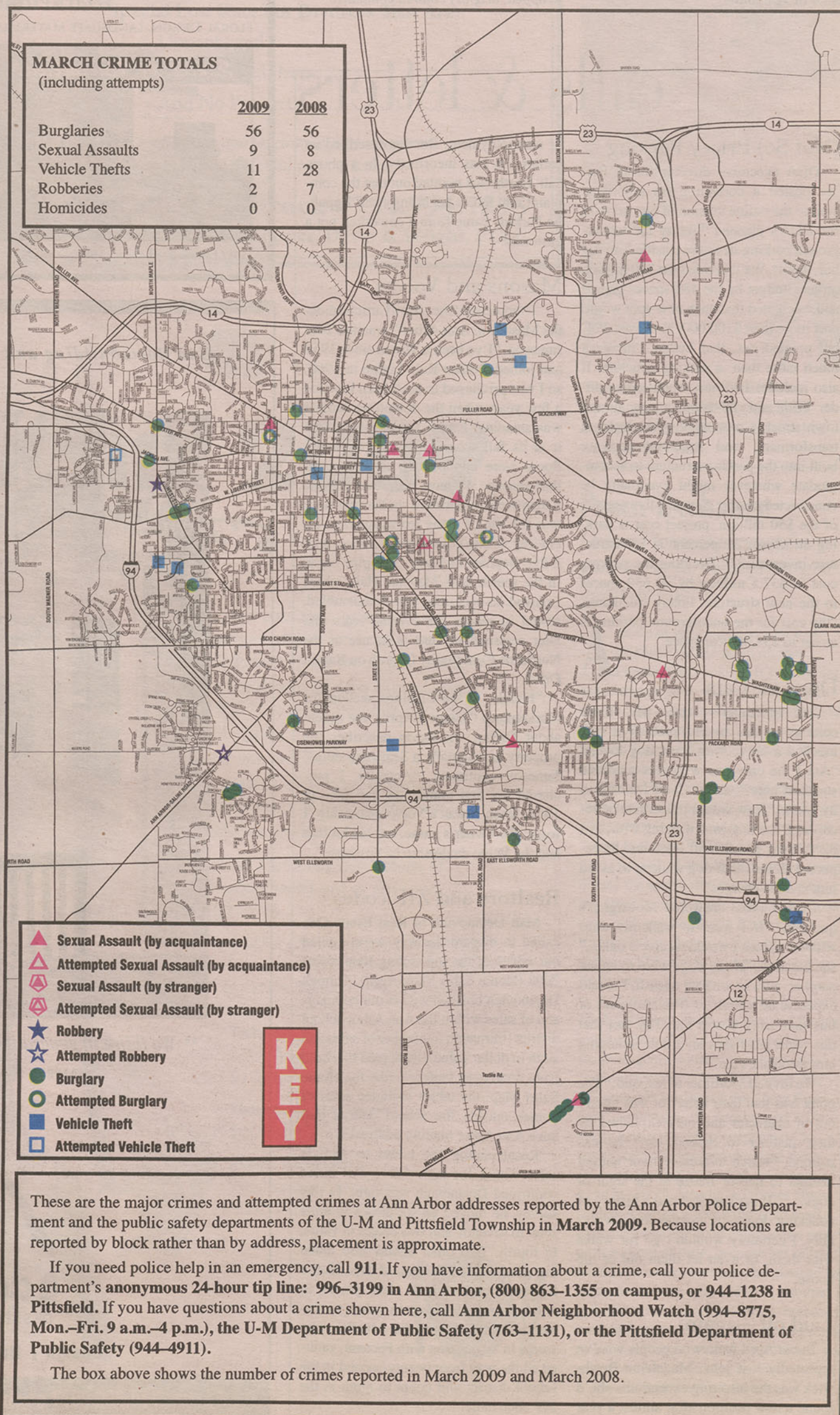
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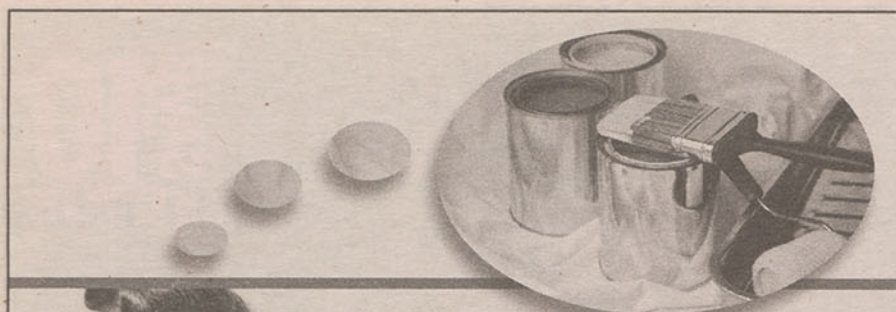
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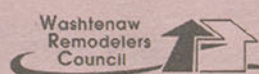
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CAROLYN LEAPARD HAS BEEN a supporter of the Farmer's Market as far back as she can remember. There are few things she enjoys more than the camaraderie and sense of community she experiences while strolling through the aisles of goods.

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Ann Arborites

Father Chas

From promoting Wheaties to saying Mass

With his shaved head and clerical collar, it's easy to tell that Charles "Father Chas" Canoy has taken religious vows. But perhaps because of his light brown complexion, people often guess wrong about which religion. That's why, when Canoy was introduced to St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in 2005, his first words to his parishioners were, "I am not, nor have I ever been, a Buddhist."

"I was born in the Philippines, but grew up in Columbia, Missouri," explains the thirty-six-year-old priest, pronouncing it "Missourah" with a native's drawl. "I'm kind of a political refugee," he adds with a chuckle. "When my grandfather was a senator in the Philippines, martial law was declared" by the dictator Ferdinand Marcos. "My grandfather was one of his biggest opponents." Luckily, his grandfather was in France when martial law was declared in 1972.

Canoy's family moved to Missouri when his parents, both oncologists, received job offers there. Chas played varsity golf in high school and enrolled at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business. Yet even while setting his sights on a business career, he also took philosophy classes and mulled the priesthood.

"After one year, I felt zero desire for the priesthood so I thought 'All right! I guess that means I'm called to marriage.'" He never married—but he did earn a bachelor's degree in marketing in 1994 and stepped right into a job at General Mills.

"Great job, company car, stock options," he says with a hint of wistfulness.

But inside, a struggle was brewing. "At one point, I just thought to myself, 'I don't know if I want to be promoting Wheaties for the rest of my life.'" And he came to believe God was calling him into further service. In 1998, he took a job in Ann Arbor for Legatus, a Catholic organization that aims to promote faith among business leaders—but he still felt unfulfilled.

"I knew that even though I was doing some type of ministry now, God was calling me to something deeper," he recalls. In 2000, Canoy spent a year studying in Rome, but it proved too "distracting." It was the Great Jubilee Year [marking the third Christian millennium], a flurry of activity and celebration."

So he left Rome, and "in the middle of nowhere in Austria for thirty days," he began a process of spiritual exercises that "allowed me to get beyond myself and say yes to that calling." He made the final decision to become a priest during Lent in 2001. He returned to Michigan to earn a master's degree in divinity from Detroit's Sacred Heart Major Seminary and was ordained in 2005.



Canoy says he's "not into the 'traditionalist' label because of the baggage that can come with that label in some people's minds." Still, he defends the all-male priesthood: "Jesus called himself the bridegroom. If he's the bridegroom, then who's the bride? The bride is the church, made up of all his disciples. The Mass is rich with spousal imagery."

Fr. Chas enjoys telling parishioners that "running a parish is like running a small business," though the "profit" is "spiritual." The priest's warmth quickly puts everyone at ease, says congregant Kathie Baxter. "I've never heard anyone speak as if they didn't connect with Father Chas."

After four years as a priest, he says, the "most difficult adjustment" to the religious life is "keeping my weight down!" He's been so busy he's had to cut back on sports, including his beloved golf. At the same time, his congregation is keeping him a little too well fed: "Everyone wants to have 'Father' over for dinner," he explains, "and they go all out."

St. Thomas is the city's oldest Catholic church. Some families have been attending services in its beautiful stone building on the corner of State and Kingsley for generations.

Though many older churches in central cities have seen membership decline, Canoy says St. Thomas has "remained steady at just under 2,000 families, despite a number of families having to move away for employment opportunities."

His convivial, optimistic nature is challenged by the current hard times. More people come to the church seeking succor, both spiritual and practical (the church offers free clothing and food through the So-

ciety of St. Vincent de Paul). "I wish I had more hours in the day!" he says, noting regretfully that he can't always see parishioners the moment they want an appointment.

Although St. Thomas is viewed by local Catholics as more conservative than the nearby St. Mary Student Parish, Canoy says he's "not into the 'traditionalist' label because of the baggage that can come with that label in some people's minds." Still, he defends the all-male priesthood: "Jesus called himself the bridegroom. If he's the bridegroom, then who's the bride? The bride is the church, made up of all his disciples. The Mass is rich with spousal imagery." And as for married priests, "For the sake of all involved, I don't think it's a good idea. Being a priest is all-consuming. The parish is a full-time family on its own and then some."

Fr. Chas spent the last four years in Ann Arbor. "I love it here," he says. "I think of Ann Arbor as my home." But priests are reassigned regularly, and in July he'll move on to St. Andrew's in Saline. "It's a bittersweet thing for me personally," he admits. "I'll miss celebrating the Eucharist with them [St. Thomas parishioners] on Sunday."

He doesn't expect to totally lose touch with his former congregation. "Ann Arbor will remain close to my heart," he says, "and I won't be too far away!"

—Noah Hahn

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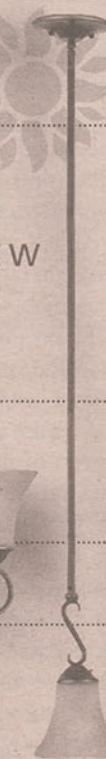


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The Joy of Biking

My alternative commute

“You rode your bike? In this weather?” I hear this greeting many mornings as I stride into work at the 789 Eisenhower building, wearing my helmet and backpack. Often, the amazement from my coworkers is followed by a hearty “Good for you!” as though I’ve done something spartan and challenging—two adjectives totally alien to me.

I ride my bike for no other reason than pure physical pleasures. It’s surprisingly real to me—surprising because I’m anti-exercise as a rule. But I revel in the caress of a balmy, sunny day, and I delight just as much in the bracing stimulation of a gray, chilly one. It’s liberating to coast down Georgetown Boulevard using only the power of gravity. There’s relief and triumph at the top of the hill on Eisenhower’s railroad bridge (not exactly a mountain, but then I’m not exactly an athlete). The greatest pleasure, though, is the amazing sensation of being in an environment that is not the inside of a car.

I watch the seasons change along the city’s edge. A tiny family of black squirrels manages to establish a colony in a yard on Georgetown Boulevard. A squadron of furious sparrows chases a small hawk out of a leafless bush. A riot of wildflowers, berry bushes, and sumacs grows,

dies, and is reborn along the concrete bridge over the railway. On a sunny day, pigeons lounge on the telephone line above the tracks, black against the cobalt sky. Once, I saw three majestic white birds, perhaps swans, in formation overhead, silent and deliberate in flight. Of course, the reality of nature’s encounters with the automobile are everywhere—smashed squirrels, mangled birds, and, once, a flattened, dried-up frog, its gray, bulging eyes seeming to hold an extra measure of death. I’ve turned away in horror as a speeding car caught not one, but two frantically dodging squirrels.

The human landscape changes, too. Once a week, I glimpse people’s lives through their recycle bins. Houses go up for sale—and stay that way. Renovation projects begin, go on forever, and then are suddenly finished. I’ve seen bumper stickers change, holiday decorations come and go, ash trees fall, driveways get paved.

It sounds banal, yes, but if I were in the car, I’d be flipping between sta-



MARK BIALEK

The railroad bridge on Eisenhower is not exactly a mountain, but then I’m not exactly an athlete.

tions, watching traffic, checking the gas gauge—the soulless activities that lead to the unsatisfying end of an un-lived life. In the twenty minutes that I’m outside on my bike, I weave a different way of being into my suburban existence—and that’s a pleasure.

—Beth Dwoskin

After the Cold War

An old wound healed at the U-M Hospital

On a cold, dark, and drizzly November morning, my wife, Nancy, drove me to the University of Michigan Hospital. It was the final step on a journey that began more than a half century ago, playing with trucks and half-tracks in a village southeast of Berlin.

These weren’t toys—they were full-scale, armed Soviet machines, lumbering through town at shift change to patrol the Iron Curtain. I was part of a pack of eleven boys, ages six to sixteen. We were unsupervised, our fathers either dead or prisoners of war in Russia, our mothers working nine hours in the fields for two eggs and a loaf of bread.

People routinely were killed trying to escape to West Germany, and the border patrols evoked a visceral rage. Anton, our leader and surrogate father, came up with the plan. He was only sixteen, so emaciated that even in the desperate last days of World War II the Wehrmacht rejected him, but he was undogmatically smart.

The big vehicles ran on diesel; the border guards were fueled by cheap Russian vodka. Anton’s plan was to torch the vehicles, soldiers and all, using Molotov cocktails. He reasoned they were perpetu-

ally drunk and therefore sitting ducks. We would attack them at midnight, then slip through a section of the briefly unpatrolled border to freedom.

Anton ordered dry runs, in which we practiced mounting the vehicles as they drove past at maybe fifteen miles an hour. Three of us were killed in various attempts. I was hurt badly. Running for the grab handle on a truck, I tripped on a branch and fell. I was lucky that the rear tires only grazed along my arm and leg, but the damage to my knee was beyond the reach of East German technology.

We never made our attack, but four years later, I escaped to West Germany. In later years, I kept visiting different medical facilities to see if they could help. They all declined. This was not a typical leg injury, but a cobbled-up nightmare. I resigned myself to the pain.

Last year the pain became incapacitating. It looked like the end of my normal life until my physician, Phillip Rodgers, sent me to U-M surgeons John Blaha and Paul Cederna. At the end of the interview, they said something that made everything spin around me: “We can do this operation.”

Dr. Blaha and his team performed a total knee replacement. That was successful, but the old scar tissue failed to heal. In November I returned so that Dr. Cederna and team could do a “flap” procedure, rerouting part of the calf muscle to cover the scar area and provide a blood supply. (I hope I explained that correctly.)

At check-in I hand over a copy of my Durable Power of Attorney, with its provision to pull the plug if I’m no longer durable. I think of my sister-in-law, Jamie Bray, who had a major set of leg operations at a suburban hospital. The attempts failed, and her leg was amputated, because her condition was far more complex. Yet she exudes—no!—she radiates courage and good cheer. Dear Jamie, it’s my turn now. I promise not to complain or look back.

As they wheel me into the prep room, I nervously ask a nurse how this procedure ranks against an alien abduction. She whispers, “It’s about the same,” and we both crack up.

Nine hours later, the lights come back on. My guardian angel Nancy is with me, graduating from the “For better or for worse” university one more time. And by Christmas I am walking around, eating fruitcake. With no more pain—none!—it’s my merriest Christmas ever.

So thank you, Drs. Rodgers, Blaha, Cederna, and your staffs, and Michelle Hahn, P.T., for the gift of a lifetime—and indeed, the gift of a better life. What you did for me is beyond my ability to express, but it simply adds to why Ann Arbor is so loved by our family. After four countries and seventeen addresses, this refugee found a home here in 1994. And what a home it is!

Oh yes—the fruitcake was, as always, terrible!

—Walt Palesch

Who’s Counting?

The Antiquarian Book Fair turns thirty-one ... thirty-two ... thirty-three

It’s hard for me to believe the Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair is thirty-one years old this year. Well, actually it is thirty-two years old. Come to think of it, it was born thirty-three years ago. It may be hard to explain these seemingly incompatible facts, but let me try.

Back in the mid-1970s, the antiquarian book trade was experiencing a modest renaissance. Tom and Louie Borders started Charing Cross Book Shop (later State Street Book Shop), Bill Gillmore launched Dawn Treader, and I opened the West Side Book Shop, all within a two-year period.

In July 1976 the American Library Association scheduled its Rare Book Conference in Ann Arbor, and some of us thought it would be a good idea to put on a book fair, invite the librarians, and sell them lots of books. Actually Bob and Ruth Iglehart of Hartfield Books came up with the idea, and I and Tom Nicely of Leaves of Grass Rare Books seconded the motion. We rented a room in the Michigan League for three days and persuaded eleven other Michigan dealers to join us. In anticipation of a collegial event hobnobbing with the rare-book librarians, a wine and cheese reception was planned for the opening night.

The librarians came, drank the wine, ate the cheese, bought few books (if any), and left. We then spent two of the hottest and most humid days of the summer in a room with no air conditioning, staring at each other’s books.

There was no fair in 1977.

Memory being short, in 1978 we decided to try again—this time for a single day in February. Moving to the Anderson Room of the Michigan Union allowed us to add a few more dealers. Later moves to the Pendleton Room and then the Ballroom continued our headlong expansion.

During the early years our planning sessions were conducted at the Iglehart home over a bottle or two of wine. By this time Kevin Sheets of the State Street Book Shop had joined us. There was much book talk and little planning as the wine flowed. As we planned the ninth fair we, for some inexplicable reason, thought it was the eighth. And so we announced it, and so it stood.

Anyway, that’s why the Antiquarian Book Fair on May 17 (see Events), is officially the thirty-first. Even though it’s actually the thirty-second fair. And the whole thing started thirty-three years ago.

At least I think that’s right.

—Jay Platt

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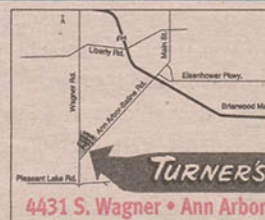
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The Death of the News



VICKIE ELMER



The decision to kill Ann Arbor's daily paper came from the very top of the Newhouse empire. But can AnnArbor.com really reinvent local journalism?

By Vickie Elmer

Publisher Laurel Champion learned her paper would close in a February phone call from Newhouse officials.

The trio might have been candidates campaigning as they smiled, shook hands, and spoke to half-empty auditoriums around Ann Arbor in April. Instead, they were publishing executives working for the Newhouse family, and their mission was to sell a website and twice-weekly paper that will replace the daily *Ann Arbor News* this summer.

Their ambitious company, AnnArbor.com, will bring together news, blogs, reader-created content, community interest areas, social networking, various forms of advertising, and other features still to be defined. Yet it is expected to employ less than one-fourth the staff of the *News*. And its three leaders have never worked for a web organization.

At a forum at Concordia University, Matt Kraner, the chief executive officer of AnnArbor.com, sports a web-savvy look with his goatee, pompadour hairstyle, and shirt without a tie. A former chief marketing officer of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, he uses the terms "sustainable business model" and "generate value for advertisers" many times. The new company, he says, will be "a smaller and more nimble organization than the daily newspaper."

"There will be journalism in AnnArbor.com, but we're going to take that a step beyond," says Kraner. Ann Arbor residents themselves, he says, will serve as "aggregators and curators" of online information—they'll be editors and producers as well as readers.

Next up is Tony Dearing, a journalistic veteran who has recently served as the editor of the *Bay City Times* and the *Flint Journal*. In a pinstripe suit and white shirt and tie, he looks more like he's talking

to bankers than to potential Ann Arbor readers and bloggers. He promises "local, local, local" coverage—local journalists covering police, government, and schools and writing commentary and blogs. "What kinds of things do you need us to be a resource for?" Dearing asks the twenty or so people in attendance. "We want to hear."

Laurel Champion, also wearing a pinstripe suit, is the last to speak. A third-generation publisher, she has been at the helm of the *Ann Arbor News* since 2005. Hers is a difficult task: she has to acknowledge the anger and sadness provoked by the death of the daily paper while trying to sell its successor. "With every ending is a new beginning," she says. She also praises the *Ann Arbor News* staff as "extremely talented" and insists "there's nothing they did wrong."

Yet on the morning of Monday, March 23, Champion told the staff—and then the community—that the *Ann Arbor News*, which traces its editorial lineage all the way back to 1835, will cease publication sometime in July. Stories about its demise appeared almost immediately on mlive.com, the website that provides online content for the *News* and Booth Newspapers' seven other Michigan publications. Ironically, though, the news about the death of the *News* didn't show up in the newspaper itself until the following afternoon—long after the bloggers had filed multiple pieces and the television trucks had pulled out of the paper's parking lot.

As the subsequent company-sponsored forums revealed, the announcement hit older readers with particular force. Kitie Morelock, a retired social worker, says she is "digitally competent" and online most days but is sad to think of all that will be lost when the *News* doesn't show up on her doorstep every afternoon: editorial cartoons, Jo Mathis' columns, crime items, and all the "little things that I'll talk to my friends about."

News staffers have been told they can apply to work at AnnArbor.com, but the pay scale will be lower, and entire departments will no longer exist.

"I don't know how email can be made into a newspaper," she says. "How are you going to do it?"

Plenty of newspapers have been rethinking their frequency of publication and online presence lately, but the Newhouse family is going much further: the *Ann Arbor News* will cease to operate as a company. From its ashes will emerge a new, untested media venture.

Come July, everyone who works at the *News* will be officially out of a job. And while staffers have been told they can apply to work at AnnArbor.com, the pay scale will be lower, and entire departments will no longer exist. There will be fewer reporters and more "tech whiz kids" as Dearing called them.

This new, slimmed-down team will commence a grand experiment in new media—an experiment launched by media

barons in New York without consulting anyone in Ann Arbor.

The powerful and private Newhouse family has owned Booth Newspapers for a generation—along with other papers across the country, stakes in cable television, and a distinguished roster of magazines that includes *Architectural Digest*, the *New Yorker*, *Vogue*, and *Wired*.

Brothers Si Newhouse, eighty-one, and Donald, seventy-nine, own all this outright through their privately held company, Advance Publications. With no public stockholders, they don't have to report income and profits. But until very recently, newspapers were incredibly profitable. As recently as 2005, Gannett, which owns the *Detroit Free Press*, *Lansing State Journal*, and the *Daily Press & Argus* in Livingston County, reported 26 percent operating margins for its newspapers. The Newhouse papers' profits are not known, but they mainly operate as monopoly publications. Last year, Si and Don Newhouse shared the number thirty-six spot on *Forbes* magazine's list of the richest Americans, with an estimated net worth of \$8 billion apiece.

But that was then. Companies that depend on advertising sales have been devastated by the current recession, and newspapers, with their daily publication schedules and high costs, have been particularly hard hit. Just since last year, *Forbes* has cut its estimate of the Newhouse brothers' worth in half.

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The Death of the News

In past downturns, the Newhouses maintained staff with a "no layoffs" policy. But this time, they are moving aggressively to cut costs in many cities, says independent newspaper analyst John Morton. "Clearly they're feeling the pinch," says Morton.

Sometime last summer or early fall, the family decided to make drastic changes to its newspaper empire, which stretches from Staten Island to Portland, Oregon, and from New Orleans to Grand Rapids.

In meetings in midtown Manhattan and at dinners on the east side of New York City, possibilities were discussed, surveys commissioned, and hard decisions made: Forget the commitment to staffing and slash 40 percent of the writers, editors, and photographers at the *Star-Ledger*, a Pulitzer Prize-winning daily in New Jersey. Combine operations of once-independent papers in Flint, Bay City, and Saginaw, cut publication from seven days a week to three, and slash pay by up to 50 percent. And, most stunning of all, kill off the daily paper that for generations had informed Ann Arborites about everything from football to farming, local politics to cooking, in favor of a new website and twice-weekly paper—both to be called, confusingly, *AnnArbor.com*.

The decisions that sealed the fate of the *Ann Arbor News* were made with no one from the city or newspaper present. Even the *News'* longtime editor, Ed Petykiewicz, and publisher Champion weren't informed until months later. Champion says she learned of the decision in a late February telephone call; Petykiewicz says he got the news only a week or two before the public.

Equally amazing, the decision to kill *Ann Arbor's* daily paper was made without any detailed plan for the new media outlet that would replace it—though New York journalism professor and former Newhouse exec Jeff Jarvis says he was retained as a consultant soon afterward to come up with ideas.

Steve Newhouse, Don's son, is acting as the family spokesman on the changes here. Newhouse, who heads their companies' web arm, *advance.net*, says he became convinced last year that *Ann Arbor* was the perfect place to create a new media enterprise. "We did research that bore out what we suspected," he says. "Ann Arbor is a unique community, a thought leader. If there was ever a place to try a direction based on the power of the Internet and tapping into the vibrancy of the community, it would be *Ann Arbor*."

Jarvis says that the Newhouses had already decided the newspaper's days were numbered by the time he was called in as a consultant. He can't pinpoint the timing but recalls the weather was turning cold. And Steve Newhouse told *Crain's Detroit Business* that the plans to close the *News* had been in the works for "many months" before the late March announcement.

Asked about what he hopes *AnnArbor.com* will accomplish, Newhouse answers: "It will preserve a lot of journalistic quality of the *Ann Arbor News* while adding

in a tremendous amount of Internet-based features. Most of all I think we'd like *AnnArbor.com* to be a place where the community finds a home—to add in things that we wouldn't have thought of."

Jarvis—who helped launch *mlive.com* in the mid-1990s and now writes a popular blog, *Buzz Machine*—also touts the new website's potential to combine traditional reporting with community contributions.

"The people of *Ann Arbor* have an opportunity to create and build what they want—and they'll have the help of some very talented people to do that," says Jarvis, formerly president and creative director of *advance.net*. "I think *Ann Arbor* can be a model for the wired city. That's very exciting."

While Jarvis is excited, observers steeped in the print media are skeptical. To many, the contention that a city as prosperous and literate as *Ann Arbor* can no longer support a daily newspaper seems dead wrong.

"I don't get it," says Charles Eisendrath, director of the Knight-Wallace journalism fellowship at the U-M. If the Newhouses had asked him, Eisendrath says, he would have argued for sticking it out until the economy turns around. But, he adds, "It's a privately held company, and a privately held company can do pretty well what it wants."

"It makes no sense that they would retain [the] Jackson [*Citizen Patriot*] as a traditional newspaper and close down *Ann Arbor*," agrees Ben Burns, a former *Detroit News* executive editor who heads the journalism department at Wayne State University. "Ann Arbor probably has a better reading demographic than any other community in Michigan."

In late 2006, in fact, the Newhouses were on the brink of adding local print publications, new weekly newspapers for Chelsea, Saline, and other nearby areas. They had even hired key staff, but backed off when Pfizer announced it was closing its *Ann Arbor* laboratory in January 2007. "That really pulled the plug on that grand plan," said one executive involved in the rollout. "They were in an expansion mode up until that point."

But even before the Pfizer bombshell, the *News* had suffered a steep loss in advertising, as the *Observer* reported this January. A comparison of Sunday issues in December 2000 and December 2008 revealed a 65 percent drop in classified ads alone. Less money was coming in from subscribers, too—daily and Sunday circulation are both off more than 20 percent in the last five years.

Fred Manuel of Saline is the former chief executive of *Heritage Newspapers*, which publishes weeklies in Chelsea, Dexter, Manchester, Saline, and elsewhere. Manuel thinks the *News* could have strengthened its position by converting to morning publication. A morning paper is more timely, since it reaches readers before they're bombarded by the day's cable TV and Internet news, and many afternoon papers have made the switch to improve readership. Manuel suspects the *News*

was locked out of that option, though, by a long-term contract to print the *New York Times*. The deal brought in revenue to build a new printing press in Pittsfield Township—but also meant the presses were busy overnight.

Manuel also believes the Newhouses had locked themselves into a bad website. MLive, which posts stories from all eight Booth Newspapers, “was flawed from the beginning,” he says. “It was so tough to get to the local paper. The website is so complex.”

That left the *Ann Arbor News* as the core of the Newhouses’ local media franchise. But despite repeatedly cutting staff and reducing the paper’s size, Laurel

“We worked hard to make the paper . . . successful as long as possible,” says editor Ed Petykiewicz, who announced his own retirement just days before the closing announcement.

Champion says, the *News* suffered “very steep losses last year.” And, she says, the losses were accelerating this year.

“We worked hard to make the paper . . . successful as long as possible,” says Ed Petykiewicz, who announced his own retirement just days before the closing announcement. He says, “There was no one thing or small number of things that would have prevented this from happening.”

Still, not everyone buys that the *News* had to close. “They had a media monopoly. In Ann Arbor. How can you screw that up?” asks former staff writer Marianne Rzepka.

Newspaper analyst Morton also thinks papers such as the *Ann Arbor News* should be faring better than papers in Denver and Seattle that shut down or went to online-only editions. Smaller dailies “aren’t suffering from the woes of the metropolitan papers. . . . They tend to be closer to their readers and advertisers,” he says. And he points out that Ann Arbor also is fertile ground for readers—“highly educated, high-income demographics.”

Champion says she feels some “woulda, shoulda, coulda” guilt about the demise of the *News*. But after two years of cutting the staff and size of the newspaper as revenues shrank, she saw “no easy decisions. There’s just taking value away.”

The bottom line, Champion says, is that “we could no longer sustain a seven-day print model.”

For Wayne State’s Ben Burns, the death of the *Ann Arbor News* calls to mind a Kafka tale about a complicated machine that executes people one thin slice at a time: “They take a little bit more and a little bit more until the prisoner dies. Corporate folks [who] have taken over most of the newspaper industry have done this—they are giving less val-



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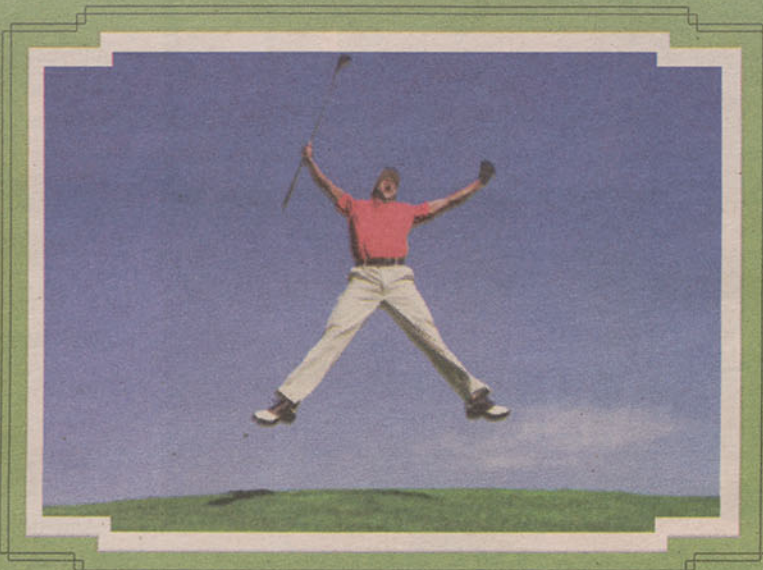
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The Death of the News

ue. They have squeezed out profits [that] by modern standards are fairly unconscionable, except for [financial fraudster Bernie] Madoff."

Burns believes that the Newhouse family made the change because it saw "a corporate advantage to shut the newspaper down and go to an online operation." The list of advantages is a long one—starting with jettisoning the entire workforce. Closing the *News* also allowed them to sell its downtown building (on a prime piece of property) and shed many other obligations—from the cost of daily comics to the expectation that the paper would contribute sponsorship dollars to local events.

Even after two recent rounds of staff cuts, the *Ann Arbor News* still has 272 employees. The newsroom alone—news and feature writers, editors and photographers—has a recent head count of sixty-five

"In order for the project to be successful, it had to be a complete rethinking, built from the ground up, with the support of the community," Steve Newhouse says. "We wanted to reinvent the model. We had to build from scratch."

to seventy. "Newspapers are expensive," says Jarvis. "It's an economic reality."

AnnArbor.com's entire staff will be only fifty to sixty people, including ad salespeople, the one staff that won't be significantly smaller at the new company. Pay scales for those jobs will likely be significantly less than for corresponding positions at the *News*. The company will outsource virtually all other functions, including circulation and delivery, printing (to a new company operating at the Pittsfield Township plant), accounting, and copyediting and layout (to other Booth papers). And it will try to get a significant amount of its online content for free, from reader-contributors.

Steve Newhouse and the people creating AnnArbor.com acknowledge the cost savings are important. But they prefer to emphasize the opportunity to experiment with a new hybrid website—part news, part social connection, part community-generated tools and content. Ann Arbor was chosen as the laboratory for this kind of journalism, they say, because of its high rate of engaged, computer-savvy residents—both at the University of Michigan and beyond it.

"In order for the project to be successful, it had to be a complete rethinking, built from the ground up, with the support of the community," Steve Newhouse says. "We wanted to reinvent the model. We had to build from scratch."

So last year, Newhouse hired a market research firm to survey Washtenaw County residents. The survey found almost all have a computer in their homes—and, Champion told a forum audience, "ninety-two percent are willing and ready to accept news online."

Apparently their pollsters didn't reach the hundreds of people who come into Ann Arbor District Library branches every day to read copies of the *News*. Many also read the *New York Times* or the *Wall Street Journal*—and they'll keep coming for those newspapers after the daily *News* disappears, predicts Josie Parker, the library's director. Parker says she, too, will miss the daily paper—both as an effective advertising tool for library events and as a source of local information. A website is "not the same as sitting down in a comfortable chair in the sunshine and reading the newspaper," she says.

Nobody polled Greg Dahlberg of Scio Farms, who buys the *News* at a newsstand almost every day. He uses it to identify estate sales and garage sales, where he's bought all kinds of items for resale. And he's disappointed because "a viable free press keeps us informed as citizens."

"The corporate bean counters are trying to invent a three-hump camel," says

Ben Burns. "They're trying to change a [newspaper-reading] culture of a century, and doing it without consulting the people of the culture."

On the other hand, John Morton says, "If you're going to try to reinvent the newspaper, Ann Arbor is a good place to try it."

Jeff Jarvis spent time in Ann Arbor when mlive.com was launching, but he's now a professor at the City University of New York's graduate school of journalism. "We've got to be looking at, trying out, experimenting with new things. That's good for all of journalism," says Jarvis. "We've got to have a lot of experiments—I shouldn't use the word experiment—a lot of innovation." He thinks residents may use the new site to share photos, for example, or to invite people to meetings or events.

Making all this into a coherent package is the task of Tony Dearing. An editor at the *News* from 1988 to 1999, he has an upbeat outlook. Asked about the staffing for AnnArbor.com, Dearing speaks in generalities, giving no specifics on the number of editorial employees or their salaries. But he does say, "It's a buyer's market—a lot of journalists are looking for jobs." And, he promises, "We are going to have a staff of very good journalists" and a much expanded pool of freelance writers.

Some journalists wonder if Dearing is the right person to head an experimental new media outlet. When Dearing started as *Flint Journal* editor in 2006, "we hoped for change. What we got was a lot of pretty words and platitudes and nothing else," says James Smith, a *Journal* writer for sixteen years, who now blogs on newspapers and other subjects. "He's good at putting on a

happy face. He knows nothing about what he's taking on. He has no experience and no credibility in this area" of online media.

Dearing disputes that characterization. "Our record on the Internet team at the *Flint Journal* was strong and getting stronger," he says. The *Journal* was doing "a lot of things online."

Smith and others believe the Newhouses should have gone outside the newspaper world to find some people already steeped in the web and its best tools and possibilities. But Steve Newhouse feels good about Kraner as a "special marketer" and about Dearing's creativity. "I don't accept the premise that he's not clued in" to Ann Arbor's interests and thinking, Newhouse says.

On the business side, AnnArbor.com will depend on advertising to pay most of its bills, including the paychecks for those journalists and freelance writers. The company wants to "create value for advertisers" and will "generate content to generate value for advertisers," Kraner told the audience at Concordia. In addition to buying the traditional banner ads or tile ads used by many websites, businesses will be encouraged to post information about themselves online.

Online advertising will include sponsorships and "deals of the day" based on what Kraner calls a "business directory on steroids." And there will be Google-esque contextual ads, so that an article on Michigan football could appear next to an ad from a local retailer selling university sweatshirts. It's "the next level of targeting ability," he says.

"The business model is based on the creation of an audience," Kraner says, a "very connected passionate audience" that interacts often with advertisers and one another.

And though it's often lost in the online buzz, Newhouse is not getting out of the newspaper business in Ann Arbor. When the *News* closes, it will be replaced by a new, twice-weekly paper—also to be called AnnArbor.com. It will be sold countywide, by subscription.

"We're not abandoning print," says Champion. "There's a value to that." What Champion and the other executives refer to as "the print product" will be published Thursday morning and Sunday morning. "It will look a lot like a newspaper," she says. The midweek edition will focus on entertainment and features, while the Sunday product will be something like the Sunday *Ann Arbor News*, with news stories, comics, and preprinted ad inserts. Kraner says the company plans to distribute roughly the same number of copies as the *News* now does, but he will not provide paid circulation targets.

The leaders of AnnArbor.com plainly hope the new paper will inherit the readers and advertisers abandoned by the *News*. But some in the community are taking a wait-and-see attitude. Mayor John Hieftje says it's unclear what will happen to the city's legal advertisements, required for public meetings, notices of changes in law, and other matters. "I'm not sure I have confidence in the Thursday and Sunday product," Hieftje says.

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The Death of the News

There's definitely an air of improvising on the fly about the new venture. At this point, its creators have not even determined their financial or audience goals. "The project is so new that we don't have any benchmarks," says Steve Newhouse, who has worked with online websites for more than a decade. While he says "we have some internal hopes," he doesn't share them, and says that setting financial and other benchmarks will have to wait until the new company has been operating for a while.

Kraner says he will measure success by the connection and engagement with the Ann Arbor audience—"how big of an audience is it that we can create."

"We want to create a growing business, not manage decline," he says, and build a "business model that is sustainable."

Newhouse says he hopes the trio who are leading AnnArbor.com will "preserve a lot of the journalistic quality of the *Ann Arbor News*—and its localness." But he's most eager to see the web features sprout and grow into something that will "reach out to the broadest number of people."

"We felt that it was our best chance to have a model that would scale well into the future," he says—presumably a reference to the future of other Newhouse newspapers. But Newhouse quickly adds that AnnArbor.com must first show that it works before he's ready to discuss a roll-out to other places.

So what will AnnArbor.com be like? As described by the people charged with creating it, the site will be a mix of staff-produced stories, freelance pieces, blogs, contributions from community members and advertisers, videos, maps, and links to other online resources—and social networking.

"It's more of an online community and not just a news site," says Dearing. "We are doing something that has not been done before."

The site will have breaking local news—but not much national or international news, since that can be found in a host of other places. Local stories will focus on the same subjects traditionally covered by the *News*: sports, city government, business news, and education.

Leaders of AnnArbor.com say they'll have a big freelance budget but also a good range of staff journalists, from veterans who know Ann Arbor well to newcomers who know how to post video and produce several stories a day.

Some of that content could come from other media outlets in the region. While the *News* never acknowledged its competitors, Kraner and company have visited several local media companies to discuss their desire to share content and revenue. Despite its smaller staff, Kraner believes, such arrangements could give AnnArbor.com "far better local content than the *Ann Arbor News*."

Despite a growing national discussion of newspapers charging for online content, AnnArbor.com's online materials will be

free, Kraner says. And whatever shows up in July will be changed and enhanced in a second phase planned for October and a third one early in 2010. The idea is to plan for growth and new features.

While the leaders of the new business look ahead, those left behind by the closing wonder what comes next—not just readers, but the soon-to-be-jobless staff. One writer compares the atmosphere in the newsroom to the TV show *Survivor*, with former colleagues fighting for a spot on the new venture—and most knowing they're not going to make it.

"A group of us have started a support group, for job transitions, meeting together," says another newsroom staffer who asked not to be named. It started in the newsroom but now is open to anyone at the *News*.

Others say the staff is doing the best

"The corporate bean counters are trying to invent a three-hump camel," says Ben Burns, former executive editor of the Detroit News. "They're trying to change the [newspaper-reading] culture of a century, and doing it without consulting the people of the culture."

that it can in difficult circumstances. In the past, newspapers typically have had only a few days' notice of closing. Often staffers are called together and told they have twenty-four hours to produce their final edition. But the *News* will have to go through almost four months of slow death. "Boy, it feels like a long time in this building now," says Champion—though on a positive note, she adds, the time might be useful for employees to develop transition plans. Severance packages will be worked out in coming weeks, she says.

With one publication dying as other entities are born, the entire venture has a transitional quality. At the Concordia College forum, it wasn't lost on some in the audience that the discussion was very short on specifics.

To succeed, the new venture will first have to define itself editorially. But it also must find new sources of revenue—a huge challenge at a time when even Google, the undisputed king of online advertising, is reporting falling sales. And it must persuade Ann Arborites to change lifelong habits.

"Whether you love or hate your hometown paper, you know it," writes former sports columnist Jim Carty in his blog, *Paper Tiger No More*. "In many cases, you are tied to it by ties you don't even realize exist."

By closing the *Ann Arbor News*, the Newhouse family has cut those ties to the local community. Now, its challenge will be to create new ones.



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MARY KING'S MISSION

By Eve Silberman

"If I were you, I'd get a murderer," says Mary King, matter-of-factly. "Second degree. The murderers have been there for twenty or thirty years—they come out and have a whole new life."

Women imprisoned for unplanned killings, King explains, often committed "crimes of passion." The victim may have been an abusive or unfaithful boyfriend or husband.

King, forty-nine, has seen her share of murderers—and other ex-convicts. For the past three years, she's been Washtenaw County coordinator for the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI). Research suggests, she says, that people locked up for lesser felonies, like robbery, often renew bad habits with their old circle of friends when they're released. In contrast, she says, women who've killed in the heat of the moment often emerge from prison in their mature years determined to leave quiet and lawful lives.

The subject came up because I've been thinking about taking a roommate in my condo—and had just mused aloud that maybe I should consider an ex-felon. I tell King I'll think about her suggestion of a friendly Second Degreeer.

King, two social work interns, and I are zipping along I-94 in King's dark red Prius. She's taking us to Cassidy Lake, a boot camp for young offenders northwest of Chelsea. Tall and string-bean thin, her long brown hair streaked with blond, King snaps with energy and can't seem to get where she's going fast enough. Occasionally she takes both hands off the wheel to munch

at an ever-present container of grapes and strawberries. As we pull up at the camp she briskly waves us out—with a reminder that all we can take inside is a notebook and a pen.

We're escorted to a bare-bones conference room and seated around a long table with two corrections officials and a representative of POWER, Inc., a nonprofit that contracts with MPRI to find jobs for newly released inmates. A husky, twenty-something man in prison blue sits at the head of the table. The group asks him questions, and he politely answers with "Yes, sir" or "Yes, ma'am."

"James" (not his real name) is King's first client of the day. He has been here six months and soon will be released.

One of the camp officials, a middle-aged man with a mild demeanor, tells James that MPRI will arrange for short-

In the past, says King (left), people like Terri Cotton and Nickol Swisher left prison with only a bus ticket home. Now she can help them find short-term housing, clothing, bus passes, and in some cases, referrals to jobs.

stance abuse again. King, though, says she can arrange counseling for his various problems (he's already been through an "assaultive offender program" that's supposed to curb violent tendencies).

The discussion of drug use prompts James, for the first time, to dispute something in his record. "I didn't do cocaine," he says. "I got in some problems with selling drugs. I don't mess with them."

In answer to another question, he says he would like to go into a trade. "Are you willing to take any job?" King asks. "Washing dishes?"

"Yes, ma'am."

King asks James what he perceives as

agrees to a brief interview before going in for his session. "Greg" is twenty-four, with a camera-melting smile and a bounce to his steps. He says he spent a semester at Huron High, but "I'm from Ypsilanti—they didn't want me there." He transferred to Ypsilanti High and finished school. But "I'm no school person," he tells me. "I graduated to please my mama."

Although we don't really touch on *how* he ended up in boot camp, he's straightforward about *why*. "I want to have money," he says. "Clothes, jewelry, cars, females, everything."

He's grateful that he was sent here, instead of jail, but complains it's dull. "Yes, sir. No, sir," he says, mimicking the military discipline. More focused than James, he says he wants to earn degrees in culinary arts and business at Washtenaw Community College.

As we leave, King says that a good thing about boot camp is that inmates aren't influenced by the older career criminals they'd meet in prison. It moves her, she says, to see their "bright, shiny faces. So much potential, so much hope."

But, as she well knows, these young people face obstacles when they reenter the world: many have histories of substance abuse, few have money for school, and all face the horrors of the Michigan job market—made worse, of course, by their brush with the prison system.

Ironically, the economic gloom hasn't been all bad for Michigan's prisoners. In more prosperous times, former governors James Blanchard and John Engler tripled the size of the prison system. By the time Engler left

Governor Granholm wants to cut the prison population by 7 percent this year alone, chiefly through early paroles. As a result, MPRI's budget is one of the few in the state that's actually growing—from \$33 million this year to a requested \$57 million next year.

term housing, clothes, and a bus pass to help him get on his feet. "People commit crimes because they have particular needs—substance abuse, paying the bills for young families," the man says. "If we can offer you [help with those] there's really no reason for you to commit crimes. Agreed?"

"Yes, sir."

King and the others peruse a prerelease assessment that the camp has prepared. Based on research and James's prior record, it concludes there's a high risk that he'll be involved in violence and sub-

his biggest challenge. "Going to another authority setting," he says. He's referring to the apartment where MPRI is tentatively planning to place him. Though the program will pay his first month's rent, and possibly more, he will not be allowed to have company there, and an electronic tether will prevent him from leaving without permission. "I want to go straight to home," he says—by which he means his girlfriend's place. But his future parole officer, participating by teleconference, seems to favor the apartment.

Another soon-to-be-released prisoner

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MARY KING'S MISSION CONTINUED

office in 2003, the state was incarcerating close to 50,000 people at a cost of \$1.8 billion a year—more, prisoner advocates are quick to point out, than it spent on universities.

Governor Jennifer Granholm has reversed the prison-building boom, closing fifteen prisons and camps in her six years in office. But though violent crime is down about 25 percent since the early 1990s, the state still has 48,000 people in prison, at an annual cost of \$33,000 per inmate.

Granholm wants to cut the prison population by 7 percent this year alone, chiefly through early paroles. As a result, MPRI's budget is one of the few in the state that's actually growing—from \$33 million this year to a requested \$57 million next year. It's the most comprehensive and best-funded prisoner reentry program in Michigan history.

MPRI arrived in Washtenaw County in 2006, and King began helping prisoners in January 2007. An independent contractor, she basically functions as a liaison, connecting released prisoners to the resources they'll need on the outside.

In the past, King says, released convicts received only a bus ticket home. Now, under a "contract" with MPRI, they're eligible for short-term housing, clothing, bus passes, and, in some cases, referrals to jobs. In turn, they must agree to take part in programs that range from substance abuse treatment to a computer class, to meet with MPRI counselors and in groups, and to try to find work or schooling. If they violate the conditions, they can be thrown out of the program—or kept in MPRI as a condition of their parole. Those who make it through the six-month program attend a "graduation" ceremony where they receive a diploma and various small gifts.

Officials connected with the state program are cautiously optimistic: one says that a study last August found that MPRI participants were 26 percent less likely to return to prison than those who were re-

leased in previous years with little or nothing in the way of help.

While money is driving the state's investment in MPRI, Mary King's commitment is personal. A U-M grad who dropped out of a social work master's program when her son was born twenty-five years ago, she's outraged that blacks, Latinos, and the very poor are disproportionately represented in the penal system. Before taking this job, she coordinated a program for children visiting parents in prison and helped low-income people get housing vouchers.

Not surprisingly, King is angry about rampant discrimination against former prisoners. Some of those in jail, she says, were locked up for little more than being in the wrong place with the wrong crowd. Fury fills her voice as she tells the story of a woman who went on a date with a guy she didn't know well. He asked her to wait in the car when he went into a house—to do a drug deal. He was caught, and she did two years for being his accomplice.

King admits she agrees with some restrictions, such as banning sex offenders from working in schools. But the system needs flexibility, she insists—laws and parole conditions should "allow for supervision requirements that are tailored to individual risks." Obviously frustrated, she insists, "I just want a level playing field!"

King's task is open-ended: essentially, she's the point person for anything to do with prisoner reentry in Washtenaw County. Yet she remains so upbeat she makes it easy to forget how tough her job is. "I have a passion for this work!" she exclaims.

Washtenaw MPRI is based in the Catholic Social Services building on Packard. While King has a couple of VISTA volunteers who contact potential employers, the actual job matching is handed off to contracting organizations like POWER. "I'm the community coordinator," King explains. "My role is to help manage contractors and services they provide."

King also has made herself the county's PR person for former prisoners. She darts around giving talks at the library, civic



Nickol Swisher loves working on cars but has been unable to find work as a mechanic. She thinks that's because she served three years on drug charges.



Terril Cotton did a dozen years for robbing a drug house. He was touched that when he called his mother, Mary King insisted on talking to her, too.

groups, the Chamber of Commerce—anyone who'll listen to her message that an ex-prisoner can be a good employee. While there are no local figures, she often cites a statistic that only 12.5 percent of employers in this country say they would hire an ex-felon. King and her people—the VISTA volunteers and social work interns—try to reassure potential employers, telling them that they'll be eligible for a federal \$2,400 tax credit and federally funded reimbursement for training ex-cons, welfare recipients, and at-risk youths.

"I'm batting fifty-fifty," says one employer who has tried out two MPRI clients. Curtis Manuel, the owner of HandyManuel, says he's very happy with one man who has worked in his repair and remodeling business for almost a year—the employee has shown initiative and improved his skills in carpentry. The other man didn't last. "Let's just say 'work ethic' and leave it at that," Manuel says philosophically.

The tax credit figured into his hiring an ex-con, says Manuel. He also liked picking someone with an organization behind him, "not just someone off the streets, with no address." He's thinking of turning again to MPRI for help during the busy summer season.

Miriam Shabazz, who gets a VISTA stipend to serve as MPRI's "workforce developer," emphasizes that potential employees are screened carefully before they are given a job referral: for example, they must participate in programs and not break parole. "It's not as risky as it used to be," she says about hiring ex-prisoners—in part because the feds now provide free bonding, which is essentially insurance against employee misconduct.

Still, it takes a lot of effort for an ex-con to land even a fast-food job. Shabazz, a native Ann Arborite, becomes emotional as she describes how some released prisoners doggedly apply for dozens of positions, facing rejection over and over. Her face glows as she recalls how a bakery she had talked to recently hired someone who learned baking in jail.

King has identified about 160 county businesses and individuals willing to hire ex-prisoners. But she says the biggest employer of all, the U-M, has a mixed record. Choosing her words carefully, she says

while some university departments have "hired some folks who have felony backgrounds . . . there is a belief system at U-M that they have a policy that prohibits the hiring of felons." There is no such policy, but so far, MPRI has not placed anyone at the U-M.

Many ex-prisoners start out at the Work Skills Corporation, a nonprofit that provides employment and training to "people with barriers to employment." These are short-term (usually ninety-day) jobs, but the hope is that during that time, those placed will get both work experience and a good reference. King took me to see the Work Skills operation in one of the cavernous buildings at the former GM Willow Run plant.

Nickol Swisher, thirty-four, a slightly built blond woman, reaches into a large box and pulls out a handful of metal wedge-like objects, then runs her hands over them, checking for loose screws. They will eventually help hold cars to a conveyor belt. If she misses any screws, Work Skills will be fined \$500. Initially hired for ninety days, she did so well that she was promoted and offered a permanent job—though at low, nonunion wages. In more than a year, she has made just one error.

An ex-drug user, Swisher served three years at the Huron Valley women's prison and other facilities. A mother of three, she's reserved, and something in her hard life shows in her tired-looking eyes. Her dream is to own an auto repair shop. She's loved working on cars since she was ten, and she's completed enough courses in auto mechanics at Huron Valley that she almost is ready to take a state certification test. But she's had no luck finding an auto repair job—and believes that's because she's an ex-felon. She's hoping to improve her chances by earning a certificate in auto mechanics at WCC this fall.

An MPRI grad, she is grateful for the help, which included three months' paid rent. That allowed her to save her Work Skills pay to buy a car, something most of her MPRI peers don't have. She also says the concern showed by King and her staff

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MARY KING'S MISSION

CONTINUED

helped her to "trust people," no easy task after enduring a difficult childhood and prison, where she was taunted by male guards.

Swisher is involved with Terril Cotton, another MPRI client who also works at the plant. It's a strong relationship, she says, because each understands where the other is coming from.

In a separate interview, Cotton, a lanky African American man, matter-of-factly acknowledges that he did a dozen years for robbing a drug house. At first, he despaired. "You're going to be depressed!" he exclaims. "Put into an abnormal environment like a caged animal!" But he experienced an epiphany when he saw a motivational speaker on TV who asked, "What are you going to do the rest of your life?"

He began reading books and magazines in the prison library and thinking about improving his relationship with his son, now twenty-five. When he was released, he says, MPRI helped him make adjustments to the outside world. King gave him a cell phone, and, he adds gratefully, "didn't look at me like I was dumb or nothing" when she realized he'd never used one. And he was touched that when he called his mother, King insisted on talking to her too.

Cotton is earning enough to rent an apartment, sees his son regularly, and has taken up painting. He's put out more than 100 applications, mostly for janitorial work, but no bites. Still, he's optimistic—and, coming full circle from his prison experience, says he would like to do "motivational speaking" for MPRI. (Some program grads do give talks with King around the county.)

Some of the newly released prisoners are required to work with MPRI as part of their probation agreements; others are not. But King insists that she and her staff make contact with virtually every prisoner about to be released.

Not everyone who goes through the program is appreciative, according to a thirtyish man I'll call "Jeff." A former drug user and drinker, he started using as a teen, he says, "because I was curious." Recently released from jail, he says he intends to stay clean and finds the twelve-step meetings required as part of his parole "helpful." But he tells me that a lot of the guys are just cynically going through the motions—that some take the computer course, for example, mainly to earn gift certificates from Meijer.

Asked why he thinks that is, Jeff shrugs and says "ego." Used to macho environments and acting tough, he believes, the men are disdainful of the effort to turn them into model citizens.

King responds: "The gift cards are a tool we use to help those just out of prison and without an income to pay for incidentals while completing their pre-employment workshops." As for Jeff's sense that some people don't have their hearts in the program, she says, "That has not been our experience."

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A more hopeful side of the program was on display last fall, when MPRI held a graduation ceremony at Washtenaw Community College.

At that point, King says, 215 men and women had received services from MPRI. "Of those, seventy-six have met our high standards for graduation"—which include finding or actively seeking work, completing the six-month case management program, and getting recommendations from their parole agent and case manager.

Since then, another 297 have entered the program.

Last fall's event was a modest affair: a dozen guys, one in a suit, the rest in jeans and T-shirts, sheepishly crossing a stage to receive a diploma that recognizes them for fulfilling their MPRI contracts, along with a gift bag. A few paused to shyly thank their families and the MPRI staff.

Some of these men were receiving their first diplomas ever. "You have succeeded where others have failed," Mary King told them. "I believe in you."



MARK BIALEK

Community activist Rose Martin is leading a grassroots effort to help ex-prisoners that in many ways parallels Mary King's. But while King is a paid contractor of a statewide program and must follow certain guidelines, Martin is an unpaid, one-woman army who follows no rules but her own.

The charismatic retired founder of Peace Neighborhood Center now heads an organization called "Rose's Good Company." It has no address and no listed phone number. But through word-of-mouth, ex-cons find her and line up for help.

A couple of years ago, Martin worked briefly for King at MPRI. She says she quit in disgust after four months because the organization balked at providing her clients with three things she viewed as essentials: bus passes, phone cards, and cigarettes.

The program now provides bus passes and sometimes gives out phone cards as gifts. But cigarettes? "Ex-cons don't want to talk to you if they don't have cigarettes," Martin snaps. "You have to give them what they want, not what you want."

Martin calls King "very smart" and says, "I know she has the welfare of people" at heart. But she believes she can accomplish more outside of bureaucracy—in part by enlisting the help of established ex-cons who relate better to newly released prisoners than "officials."

Martin once had an office but says, "I had to choose whether to pay rent or to feed people. I choose to feed people." She meets her clients wherever is convenient for them—at the Peace Center, the library, or the bus station.

She may pile a few homeless guys in a truck and drive them around to stores and factories to fill out applications. She calls restaurant or store owners she knows and asks if they're hiring. She hits up well-off admirers for donations; one recently gave her \$500, which she used to take a gang of unemployed ex-cons out to Holiday's restaurant. Some had been "eating out of garbage cans," she says. "They ordered pancakes . . . and you would have thought they won the lottery."

Martin acknowledges the past year has been bleak even for a woman as determined as she. "I used to get a job within a week or two. Now to get a job for one of my ex-cons it takes at least seven or eight months." Of the eighty-some people she counts as clients, just two are currently working regularly, though others have odd jobs like mowing lawns. The number had been higher in past months, but several of her people recently were laid off or had their hours cut drastically.

Martin is upset that a prosperous city like Ann Arbor doesn't do more to help those living on the edges. "People go to restaurants and ball games," she says. "They don't want to believe there's poverty here."

So why does Martin persist in such a thankless task? "I'm good at it," she answers. "I didn't pick it. It picked me . . . because I didn't mind going the whole distance and giving you hope."

Martin's two sons, both police officers, worry about her safety. "They tell me 'Mom, be careful with those ex-cons.'" But, she says, "I've been doing it for four years and nothing happens. My thing is, if nothing happens [to me], I'll do it. If something happens, I'll stop."

—E.S.

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On the south side of Ann Arbor, across from Jewel Heart Temple, is the world headquarters of the company that once made Tecumseh, Michigan, the "Refrigeration Capital of the World."

But the future of the eighty-five people working for Tecumseh Products is uncertain. Facing global competition and a steep recession, the company's stock is fluctuating wildly. And the family that founded the company and ran it for three generations is fighting its successors in the boardroom and the courts.

The Herrick family of Saline started the small-town manufacturer, which at its peak employed 5,000 of Tecumseh's 8,000 residents. But now its vast plant there sits vacant, and the company is locked in an internal death match.

On one side is a Catholic family whose motto is: "We believe in God, we mind our business, and we work like hell." The other side is led by a global automotive executive with a fabulous resume and a plan to reinvest in the billion-dollar firm's core business.

So what's Tecumseh Products doing in Ann Arbor? And now that it is here, how is it going to survive?

Ray Herrick—a master tool-maker and close friend of Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, and Thomas Edison—started Hillsdale Machine & Tool Company in 1930. Four years later, it was on the brink of bankruptcy when the town of Tecumseh, full of people looking for work at the height of the Depression, agreed to give it an abandoned 30,000-square-foot factory. With a boost from investors and a line of credit from a Detroit bank secured by Ford himself, Herrick moved the firm one county east and renamed it Tecumseh Products.

After Ray's son, Kenneth, came back from World War II and took charge, the company flourished making compressors for window air conditioners. By 1960, its plants in Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Canada were turning out ten million compressors a year, and the company had diversified into a more visible product—small gasoline engines for lawn mowers and garden equipment.

"It was a total company town back then," Tecumseh mayor Harvey Schmidt remembers fondly. "Almost everybody you knew had a dad who worked there. My dad worked there. My friends' dads all worked there. But it was good—great, really." The company gave away turkeys at Thanksgiving and had big picnics in the summer.

Kenneth's son, Todd, joined the family business in 1970, after flying Chinook helicopters in Vietnam. The company continued to expand domestically in the 1970s then internationally in the 1980s with joint ventures in Brazil and France. By the mid-1990s, Tecumseh Products' sales were approaching \$2 billion, and the company was earning more than \$100 million a year.

It all started to go bad in 2002 when the Brazilian

real strengthened against the dollar, cutting the company's revenues from its huge operation there almost in half. The next year, Kenneth retired and Todd became chairman.

The third generation of Herrick leaders took over in the face of a perfect storm: the price of raw materials was skyrocketing, and Chinese companies were taking over the window air conditioning market from the American manufacturers Tecumseh supplied. The company lost \$220 million in 2005 and \$80 million in 2006, and rumors of bankruptcy surfaced.

"Things were pretty grim by the end of 2006," says

A family spokesman denies that former Tecumseh Products CEO Todd Herrick (right) was canned. Yet Herrick, in a legal deposition, describes his January 2007 departure as a "firing." His son, Kent, a company vice-president, departed the same day. Whatever the circumstances, the Herricks were plainly unhappy and have battled the company ever since.

company spokeswoman Teresa Hess. (Both Tecumseh and the Herrick family prefer to wage their battles for public opinion through proxies. Neither the Herricks nor Tecumseh's management agreed to be interviewed for this article.) "Herrick family management, though they had built a very successful company, were without the background and/or expertise to fix things. In the era of globalization, they lacked the skills to handle a global operation and to turn around a global company."

The company's five-member board of directors, then still controlled by the Herricks, went looking for new in-

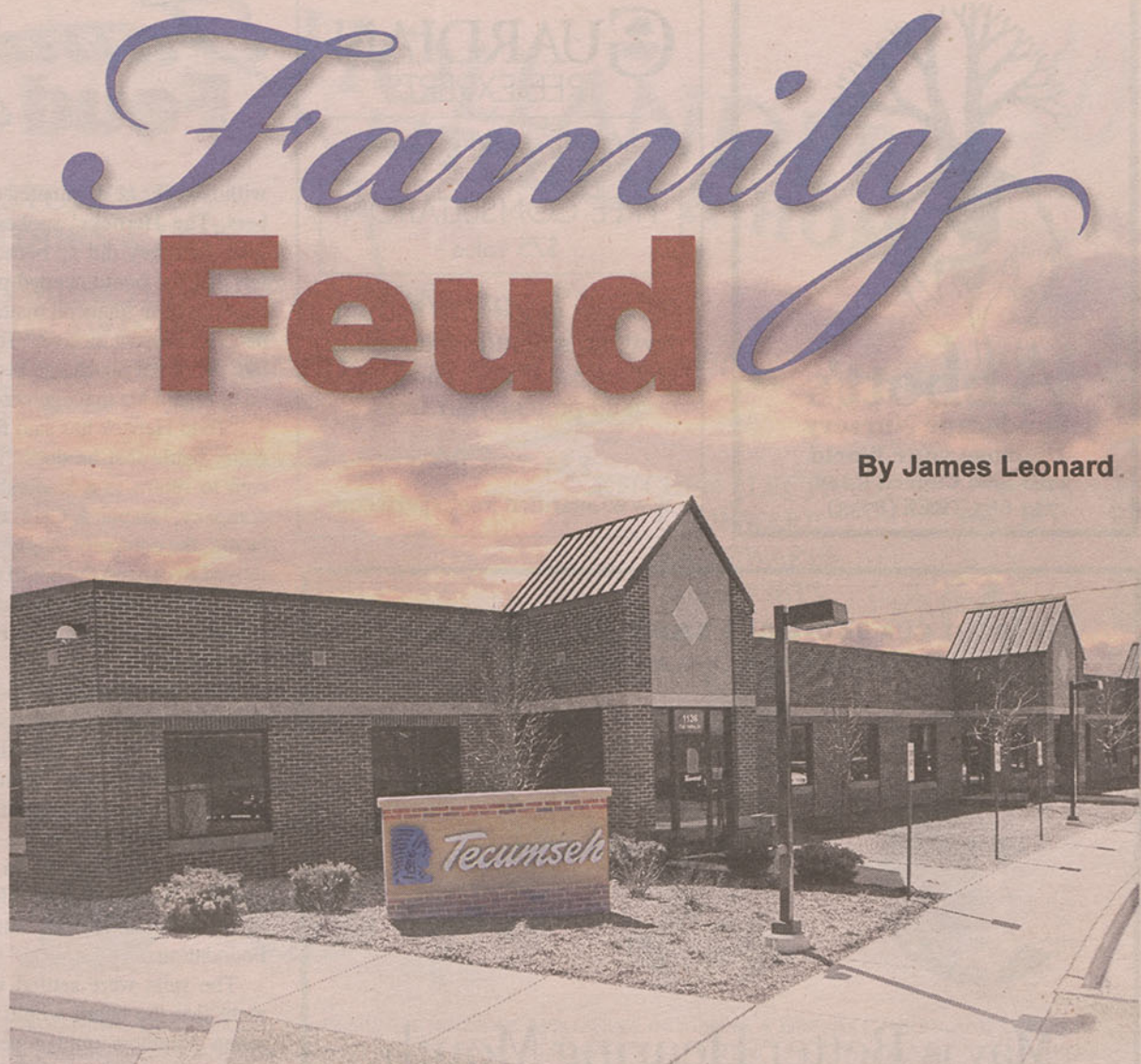
vestors. But few were interested in a company that was hemorrhaging money. Late in 2006 they cut a deal with Tricap Management, a New York investment fund known by some as a "vulture investor"—a firm that buys into debt-strapped companies with an eye towards selling off the assets if the company can't be saved.

"Tricap would loan \$100 million," says Hess, "but they told us the company needed to seek professional, non-family management. We agreed. Todd Herrick agreed, though he probably thought he'd get to step down at a time of his choosing. But things had gotten so critical so quickly that the board felt it had to act immediately—

and it put Todd Herrick out as CEO in January of '07" by a vote of 3-2.

The Herricks' spokesperson, Jim Cain, sees things differently. "Todd had already agreed to step down before the board approached Tricap," he says. "If you've already agreed to resign, how can you be fired?" Yet Todd Herrick himself, in a legal deposition, described his departure as a "firing." His son, Kent, a company vice-president, departed the same day.

Whatever the circumstances, the Herricks were plainly unhappy. Todd still chaired the company's board, and



By James Leonard

The fight for Tecumseh Products



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Family Feud

within weeks he nominated two new members. The Herricks' spokesperson at the time said they did so because "we really felt that the board needed people of more experience in financial matters." Hess suspects a different motive: "Todd nominated two people of his choice because he wanted to regain his management position."

"Todd Herrick has said throughout this entire battle that he doesn't have any design to return to a leadership role in the company," responds Cain. But just in case he did, the company majority on the board moved to expand the board to seven members to try to prevent the Herricks from retaking control. Then they booted Herrick off the board.

But the Herricks, personally and through a family trust and the Herrick Foundation, were still the company's biggest stockholders. Within weeks, the foundation sued Tecumseh Products and the three directors who'd voted to kick out Todd. The company in turn filed suit against Todd and Kent Herrick, Todd's sister and his lawyer, and the Herrick Foundation.

The suits were settled with an agreement that the board would not expand to seven members until a permanent CEO was appointed, that one of the anti-Herrick directors would not stand for re-election, and that Todd Herrick would give his voting seat on the board to his son, Kent. (As chairman emeritus, Todd can attend board meetings but not vote.)

If Todd Herrick represented Tecumseh Products' small-town roots, his successor as CEO is a paragon of industrial globalization. Fifty-five-year-old Ed Buker, hired by the company-controlled board in August 2007, has overseen auto quality

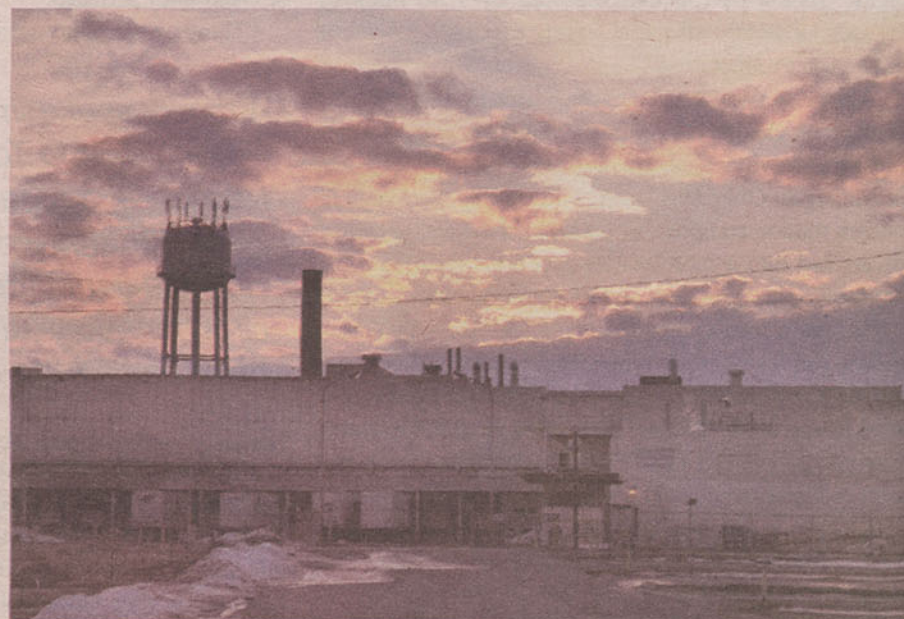
for Honda's American operations, BMW's new model development in Germany, and American factories for both companies.

In less than two years, Buker has reinvented the company. He sold off the small-engine division and made plans to use the money from the sale to reinvest in Tecumseh's core business: air conditioning compressors. But the Herricks oppose that plan. They want to pursue a "value strategy"—minimizing investment to maximize return to the company's shareholders, chiefly the Herricks themselves. Last year, they asked the company to liquidate their holdings or Tecumseh Products itself.

The family's formidable stock block has been the center of a tug-of-war ever since. Last year, the board changed the rules for calling a special meeting to require support by 75 percent of the stockholders—prompting a new round of litigation. After months of legal back-and-forth, the Herricks won. Lenawee County circuit court judge Timothy Pickard ordered Tecumseh to hold a special shareholder meeting last November 21 to vote on the family's proposal to remove the remaining two directors on the board who'd voted to oust Todd Herrick. At that meeting, the motion failed. But the two sides have continued to battle over a proposed stock restructuring that would eliminate the family's special class of super-voting shares.

The company says fighting the lawsuits has cost it \$5 million. The Herricks say their successors have only themselves to blame. "The company allowed itself to get distracted," says Cain. "Rather than giving what the Herricks had to say a fair hearing, they ended up wasting time and money trying to frustrate the foundation."

If the company was in the midst of this turmoil that Tecumseh Products moved to Ann Arbor. The company had drawn down its hometown headcount for decades, moving manufacturing first to states where labor is cheaper and then to countries where labor is much cheaper. By last July, all that



At its peak, Tecumseh Products employed 5,000 of Tecumseh's 8,000 residents. "It was a total company town back then," mayor Harvey Schmidt remembers fondly. "Almost everybody you knew had a dad who worked there. My dad worked there. My friends' dads all worked there. But it was good—great, really."

COURTESY ADRIAN DAILY TELEGRAM

was left was global management, a small manufacturing component, and a smaller research team.

"There were less than 250 people working in Tecumseh when we closed there," says Hess. "The bulk of the manufacturing work went to Tupelo, Mississippi, and a small amount went to Canada. Global headquarters came to Ann Arbor, and fifty or so engineers are still in Tecumseh."

"The city was incredibly gracious," Hess continues. "Of course, they were disappointed when we announced the move, but they understood." It helped ease the blow when, last September, Governor Jennifer Granholm announced that Ohio-based Consolidated Biscuit would buy part of the Tecumseh Products plant, bringing 500 jobs to the city.

That deal, however, has yet to close—most likely because Consolidated, like Tecumseh Products, is being whipsawed by

If Todd Herrick represented Tecumseh Products' small-town roots, his successor as CEO, Ed Buker, is a paragon of industrial globalization. He's overseen quality for Honda in America and new model development for BMW in Germany.

the economy. Tecumseh has already cut staff at its Ann Arbor headquarters, from 110 people last August to about eighty-five in April.

Tecumseh's gyrating stock price tells a similar tale. In the prosperous late 1990s, it traded at \$55 a share. By April 2007, after the Herricks' ouster, it had fallen to just \$10. A year ago, it had rebounded to \$35 a share, only to slide again—in mid-April, it was trading at \$6.70.

Asked what happened, Hess answers with a succinct email: "Complete turnover of top management, substantial inflows of cash from the fall of 2007 through the spring of 2008, Herrick lawsuits, proxy battles, and so on ... and then throw in the biggest economic downturn in decades for good measure."

For Buker and the board, though, there is one upside to the depressed stock price: it's so low that the Herrick family is no longer eager to liquidate.

That doesn't mean, though, that they've abandoned their effort to shape the company they created. If anything, the conflict has grown more complex and bitter.

The next round in the ongoing fight will take place at the company's annual meeting this month. Both sides have nominated slates of four directors—so that whoever wins will control the seven-member board.

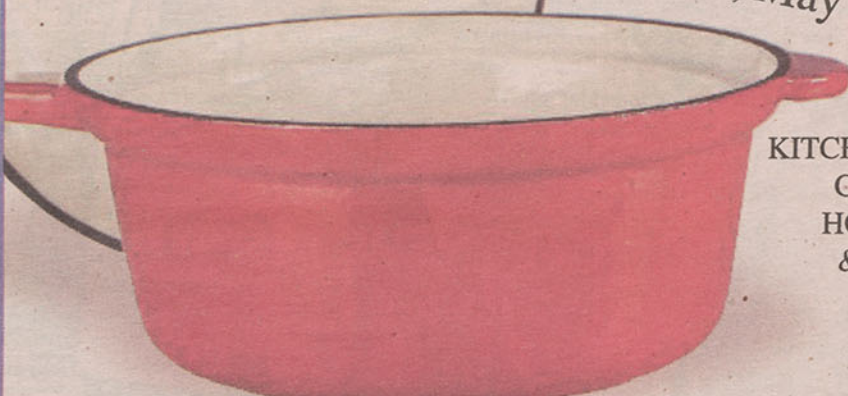
Whoever wins will then face the challenge of leading Tecumseh Products—not just from Tecumseh to Ann Arbor, but further, into the treacherous, fast-changing global economy.

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Knight's Gambit



Sherry Knight Bedolla returned from vacation last year to learn she'd been put in charge of updating Knight's Market—the business where her father went to work in 1941. While she rethinks the grocery side and brings in prepared foods from the family restaurants, her older brother Bob Knight runs the meat-cutting operation, handling fourteen tons a month for the family's restaurants and dozens of others.



Sherry Bedolla brings the family market into the 21st century



By Jan Schlain

"I came back from vacation," recalls Sherry Knight Bedolla, "and they said, 'You're moving over there.'"

"They" are her father, Ray Knight, and her brother Don—founder and manager, respectively, of Knight's restaurant on Dexter Avenue. "There" is Knight's Market at Miller and Spring streets. And Sherry, who's been at the restaurant for most of the last twenty-five years, is back at the family's first business—the small neighborhood store where her father went to work in 1941.

Ray Knight was a student at Slauson Junior High when he started at the corner grocery. After graduating from Ann Arbor High, he joined the service. In 1952, he came back from the Korean War, bought the business, and married Mary Devine.

Sherry is their third child and only daughter. She and her brothers—Bob, Jeff, Chet (Ray Jr.), and Don—grew up with the market.

"I remember coming in when I was really young," Sherry says. "I loved it." In 1967, the family bought a house next door to the market on Spring, and as the children got older "we worked every day after school—it was expected of us."

When her father bought the bar and restaurant across from Vet's Park, he made all the kids co-owners—and once again put them on the front lines. "He opened on a Monday," Sherry recalls. "Fifteen minutes before opening, he called me and said,

'Where are you?' I said, 'What do you mean, where am I?' He said, 'You're waiting tables!' I said, 'I have two kids!'" But she went to work.

"Dad was always the boss," she explains. "Mom was, too."

Last year the family got to talking about updating the market. "I just happened to say in a conversation, 'That sounds fun,'" Sherry remembers. And when she returned from her trip, the fun began.

Fifty-seven years after Ray bought it, Knight's Market is still a nondescript gray box outshined by the mango yellow Big City Small World bakery across the street. There's no sign, just a frieze of tiny horse-head silhouettes. They're chess knights—the logo that Ray has used since the restaurant opened to tie the two businesses together.

Sherry stands in the center of the store, between the freezers stuffed with Stouffer's and Pepperidge Farm frozen dinners and desserts, and the refrigerators on the other wall, housing the milk, cheese, and produce. She's full of ideas about how to make the market more contemporary and efficient. "We need to update the refrigerators," she says. "These are probably at least thirty years old. We are losing a lot of cold air."

Currently, the meat is cut in a closed-in cold room in the back of the market and put out wrapped. Sherry would like to have it displayed in a service counter. "There are

so many better ways to [do] produce and dairy," too, she says.

For years, Ray was the butcher, and Mary handled sales. Bob (Bobby to his family) took over as head meat cutter after the restaurant opened, and it's now a huge business in its own right: Sherry says they handle about fourteen tons every month. "A lot of it is burgers and bulk beef to, like, thirty-five restaurants in town," she explains. "Ours, Casey's, Fraser's, Red Hawk, Café Marie, Dimeo's, Banfield's . . . We are real picky about what we get." That won't change.

What may be where the sides of beef are aged. Currently the meat is kept in a trailer behind the market by the Ann Arbor railroad tracks. City officials have at various times provided differing opinions about whether the Knights can build an addition back there, but the latest word is that they can. So they're thinking about eliminating the trailer and expanding the market building to the railroad embankment.

"Fish," says Sherry, emerging from the immaculate cold room in back. "We don't have enough room right now to do fish properly. We have very good fish people at the restaurant, and they can help us with that."

Another big change is to bring in more prepared foods from the restaurant. Don Knight already is sending over soups, chili, quiches, brownies, cookies, and dinner rolls—"we are selling forty to fifty dozen [rolls] a week already, so that's really taking off," he says. Eventually they'll also have main courses, "like Plum Market,

Whole Foods, Papa Joe's in Birmingham."

Since Sherry took over last summer, she's started stocking Metzger's German potato salad and Angelo's raisin bread. Recently, she added Monique Deschaine's local Al Dente pasta and Marvelous Sauce.

With just 2,000 square feet, the toughest part is making space for all the new items. "That is one thing I am working on," says Sherry, "what can we cut out. . . . We talked for a time about getting rid of all of the groceries [to] focus on meat, produce, and dairy. But it's really hard," because customers like to be able to pick up basic items, too. "People say, 'I can't believe you have this!' People like to get in and get out—they don't have to run to the grocery store."

Mark Hodesh of Downtown Home & Garden may be disappointed to learn that Knight's no longer stocks two sizes of Grape Nuts. But that's a minor upheaval compared to the shock he got late last year, when he stopped at the market on his way home from work. "They gave me a free cup of Obama Blend coffee!" Mark told his coffee buddies at Sweetwaters the next morning—astonished, because everyone knows Ray is a staunch Republican.

It's a Tuesday lunch hour at Knight's restaurant, and Don Knight is working the front, taking names and showing people to their tables. The place is packed, noisy, and smoky.

Ray is sitting at the round table by the bar all alone, except for his ashtray,

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COURTESY KNIGHT FAMILY

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Ray
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pack of Vantage cigarettes, and bottle of Budweiser. He's wearing his beige suit and fedora, and waiting, as he often does on weekdays at lunchtime, for his card-playing buddies to show up for a euchre or pinochle game.

Ray was still working for the market's former owner, Al Scharbat, when he began courting his best friend's younger sister. "And then I went to war, the Korean War," Ray recalls. When he got back, he and Mary were married at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. Mary was twenty-one and working at Argus Camera Company. She quit when she got pregnant with Bob, and when she went back to work, it was at the market.

"I paid about \$5,000 for it," Ray recalls. "That didn't include the property. I bought the property in about 1955 or '56."

"I own all the properties," he adds. "I have another restaurant too, in Jackson," called Knight's Steakhouse & Grill. Don oversees both restaurants. Chet, known as Ray Jr., does all the maintenance for the three family establishments. Jeff, an attorney, is president of the family corporation. Don calls him "the boss." But the family knows who the real boss is.

Ray still sports a Rolex on one wrist and a big diamond ring on the other hand. When he drove, he says, he "always had Cadillacs." But at eighty, his leg gets numb, so the only driving he does now is shuttling a golf cart between the restaurant and his and Mary's home two doors down on Dexter. Sherry and her family have the house in between.

Seeing some of his oldest, dearest friends die has taken its toll on Ray—as have decades of drinking and smoking. But he's still the patriarch.

"Dad? No, he hasn't changed," says Sherry. "He has remained very much in charge. It's his way. He has mellowed a little bit. But he still has his hand very much in the business. He will look through the bills." One time, he was convinced huge jars of olives were disappearing. Sherry figured it was just because more people were ordering martinis—but for a while, Ray had the kids lock up the olives with the liquor.

Ray's watchful eye, Mary's devotion, and the kids' hard work and varied skills have all paid off. Ray says the businesses have no debt, except for "a loan on a couple of the properties for tax purposes. . . . We have plenty of cash." It'll take more than a financial meltdown to undo what he's built.

"He started out with very little," Sherry says. "And he is very careful with money. He watches what comes and goes."

Sherry admits that all the kids have "bumped heads" with their father at one

charge." Then, as if she's remembering herself at fourteen, coming home from school to the market to find her dad butchering and her mom at the cash register, she adds, "Maybe that's the I-never-want-to-grow-up thing."

It's 1 p.m., and the restaurant is still packed. Don Knight is still taking names on a clipboard. Ray is still drinking Bud and smoking cigarettes, but now he's also playing pinochle with his buddies, two male and one female.

All the tables and most seats at the bar are filled. The recession does not seem to be hurting business here. With glasses clicking, trays filling, plates banging, people laughing, Ray calmly explains his secret: "Good service, good food. People got to eat."

Mary Knight is sitting at a round table on the other side of the restaurant with her sister Joan Van-Sickle, Sherry, and Sherry's daughters Liz and Lindsay. Sherry took the morning off to drive her mom and aunt to their favorite quilting store and then to the family restaurant for lunch.

Mary worked at the market from the time Chet started school until she retired at the age of sixty-two.

"My wife's done a great job," says Ray. "She's the one to give credit to, not me. The man don't mean nothing."

Yet Mary says that in all the years she worked at the market, she never considered making changes. "Never." And then she explains why: "My husband is a German person. . . . The man is master."

Without missing a beat, Joan chimes in, "and we are compliant Irish girls."

"I am happy," says Mary. "I have five children. I've had an awfully happy life."

Sherry's changing the market with her dad's blessing. Still, she's doing some things he probably wouldn't, like the Obama Coffee samples that shocked Mark Hodesh.

"Obama Coffee?" Ray asks. "Is that right? I'm a Republican—but if it's over there, I'm for it."

Sherry's even thinking about putting up a sign—something her Dad didn't see any need for. "I've always believed in quality, and word of mouth—it's worked very well," Ray says. But he adds, "If Sherry wants to put up a sign, it's fine with me."

It's been sixty-eight years since Ray Knight started his after-school job with Al Scharbat. It's never easy for someone with so much history in a place to step aside. But Ray seems content to see the kids take over and pleased with what he's accomplished.

"You know how the high school puts out—what do they call it?—the Omega, the yearbook?" he says. "It says in there Ray Knight's gonna be in the grocery business. So it worked out."

Seeing some of his oldest, dearest friends die has taken its toll on Ray—as have decades of drinking and smoking. But he's still the patriarch.

time or another. "It's very hard to work day in and day out with family," she says with tenderness. "I think we do a really good job of all getting along. Where I feel like we lose out a little bit is we don't get together otherwise, except on holidays. . . . It is hard when you work these crazy hours."

Not that she's complaining. "We are very fortunate," she says. "It supports all of our families."

Sherry married steelworker Phil Bedolla in 1977. Their three daughters are now in their twenties. Lindsay and Liz work at the restaurant, while Heather is a teacher at Willow Run Elementary. (Sherry has a teaching degree, too, though she has never used it.)

While the Knight businesses have sheltered most of the family from Michigan's economic hurricane, Phil Bedolla is right in the eye of it. He's worked for U.S. Steel since he was nineteen—but now, at fifty-two, he's being bounced from plant to plant around the country. Recently, he's worked in Texas and then in Arkansas.

With their youngest, Liz, at Eastern Michigan University, he needs the job, and he's too young to retire. So he's been going where he's sent and coming home when he can. When Phil can't get away, Sherry's been taking trips to see him. But with his job situation so volatile, they wouldn't move elsewhere permanently. They're rooted here.

"My kids are so funny," Sherry says. They tell her, "You own a restaurant, but you never say that to people. You always say it's Grandpa's restaurant."

"I say, 'Well, that's how I feel.' It's still his thing. It's still his market. He's still in



COURTESY KNIGHT FAMILY



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Ray Knight cutting meat at the market in the old days (top), and in repose at his Dexter Avenue steakhouse (above). "Dad was always the boss," says Sherry.

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May Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By mail:** John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.
- **By fax:** 769-3375.
- **By e-mail:** hinch@aaobserver.com
- **After-hours drop box:** right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine.

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at **arborweb: www.arborweb.com**. This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 FRIDAY

★**May Day Dancing:** Ann Arbor Morris Dancers. All invited to celebrate this traditional holiday with outdoor singing and boisterous morris dancing. "We like to rise when the sun she rises," organizers say. *Sunrise, U-M Nichols Arboretum (meet at cement benches near Geddes Rd. entrance gate). Free. 747-8138.*

★**"Tiny Tot Time":** Leslie Science & Nature Center. May 1 & 22. A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1-3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. 9:30-11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$6. 997-1553.

★**Annual May Friendship Day:** Church Women United. Women of all faiths are invited to fellowship, a worship service, and a chance to listen to and tell personal stories of faith. This year's theme is "Building on Our Stories." Followed by lunch. 9:30 a.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free will offering. 665-8773.

★**"The Cricket in Times Square":** Wild Swan Theater. Apr. 29-May 3. This award-winning local children's theater presents Jeff Duncan's adaptation of George Selden's beloved children's novel about friendship, teamwork, and saying goodbye. The story concerns Chester Cricket, who's accidentally transported from the Connecticut countryside to a Times Square newsstand. Suitable for kids in grades K-8. Interpreted in American Sign Language; audio description and backstage "touch" tours available by prearrangement for blind audience members. The May 3 performance is followed by a "Big Apple Bash" family party. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$12 (children & seniors, \$8; lap passes for kids age 2 & under, \$3) in advance and at the door. 995-0530.

★**Preschool Storytimes:** Ann Arbor District Library. Stories and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). 10-10:30 a.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Playgroups for Babies":** Ann Arbor District Library. Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. 10:30-11:30 a.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.



High school cheerleaders delight in their popularity in a Redbud Productions staging of *Vanities* at Riverside Arts Center May 28-31.

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John Hinchey & Katie Whitney

GALLERIES

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Katie Whitney

55 Gallery Review

Katie Whitney

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Frances Kai-Hwa Wang

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John Hinchey

76 Nightspots Review

The Pussy Pirates

Charmie Gholson

★**Storytime:** Arborland Borders. Every Wed. & Fri. A Borders staffer reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Raffle. 11 a.m. (Fri.) & 6 p.m. (Wed.), Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**"The New UMMA":** U-M Museum of Art. Every Thurs.-Sun. Docent-led tours of the recently renovated museum. Noon & 5 p.m. (Fri.), 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun. and May 21), 7 p.m. (Thurs.), UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**Chime Concert:** Kerrytown Shops. Every Wed., Fri., & Sat. All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. Local chimemaster Heather O'Neal demonstrates. Noon-12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30-11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown. Free. 369-3107.

★**Movie Matinee:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Fri. Screening of a film TBA. Lunch available (\$2.50), 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**Bridge:** U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Every Mon. & Fri. All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★**ESL Conversation Group:** Ann Arbor District Library. Every Mon. & Fri. All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. 1-2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard, & AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.), 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Concordiapalooza":** Concordia University. This music festival features various Michigan bands and *Lost and Found* (9 p.m.), the popular Niagara Falls, NY, contemporary Christian duo of pianist George Baum and guitarist Michael Bridges. Other performers include the Macomb County rock band the *Ryan Horizon Band*, the local Christian rock band *Tool Time*, the Bay City indie-pop band *Take the City*, the Saginaw alt-rock band *The Gloaming*, and others. 4:30-10 p.m., Concordia University Riverside Patio (behind the student union), 4090 Geddes at Earhart. \$5. 995-7419.

★**"Dexter DQ Ride":** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Fri. Slow-paced 26-mile ride to the Dexter Dairy Queen for a snack. Also, on May 1 only, "Worst (and Best) Streets of Ann Arbor Ride" (4 p.m., City Hall parking lot off Ann), a slow-paced 20-mile ride (926-1231) with city transportation manager Eli Cooper and other city officials to assess the bicycling safety and rideability of city streets. Followed by discussion at a local restaurant TBA. 6 p.m., Abbot School, 2670 Sequoia Pkwy. (off Maple 1 block south of Miller). Free. 662-0205.

★**"Swing into Spring":** Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan Fundraiser. A strolling supper and dancing to 1940s swing by the veteran local big band the *II-V-I Orchestra*. Silent and live auctions. 6-10 p.m., Barton Hills Country Club, 730 Country Club Dr. \$50. Reservations required. 973-6779.

★**"Bloodhound":** Nicola's Books. Best-selling fiction writer Tamora Pierce discusses the 2nd novel in her young adult fantasy series about Beka Cooper, a rookie cop in an alternate universe who this time sniffs out counterfeiting gamblers. Signing. 6 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing).** All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. 7-9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 requested donation. 332-7964.

★**First Friday Ballroom Dance Party:** Arts in Motion Dance Studio. Dancing to recorded waltzes, fox-trots, and Latin dance music. Lessons given throughout the night. 7-9 p.m., Arts in Motion, 2841 Boardwalk. \$5. Reservations recommended. 222-6246.

★**"Queer Prom":** The Neutral Zone. All LGBT high school students and their friends invited to this rainbow-themed dance with music spun by DJ Amy. 7-11 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Tickets \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. 214-9995.

★**"Gardens and Persian Rugs":** Ann Arbor Garden Club. Talk by local gardener and Mir Carpets interior designer Jim Fuester. Preceded at 6 p.m. by the club's annual potluck and a brief business meeting. Bring a dish to pass. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663-9133.

★**"The Imaginary Invalid":** Huron High Players. Apr. 24 & 25 and May 1 & 2. Pam Cardell directs Huron students in Moliere's satiric comedy about a wealthy hypochondriac who thwarts his daughter's romance—he wants her to marry a doctor so he can always have one on hand to attend to his numerous



May 2009 Event Highlights

Ann Arbor District Library

All events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Washtenaw County Bike Rides

JOEL D. HOWELL



- | | | |
|-----------|----|---|
| Sunday | 3 | Memory In The Mirror: Daughters Reflecting on Parentloss
A workshop for any woman who has experienced the death of a parent • MALLETT'S CREEK BRANCH |
| Wednesday | 6 | Washtenaw County Bike Rides with author Joel Howell and Ann Arbor Cyclery's Jon Kieft |
| Thursday | 7 | The Business of Game Design with local game developer Brian Spence • GRADE 6-ADULT • PITTSFIELD BRANCH |
| Saturday | 9 | Henna Art with local henna artist Hiral Shah • GRADE 6-ADULT PITTSFIELD BRANCH |
| Monday | 11 | Secrets of the Farmers Market • A panel of local "market experts" will discuss many aspects and benefits of using local farmers markets – including Ann Arbor's |
| Tuesday | 12 | Children's Book Week • Writing and Publishing Books for Young Readers with acclaimed local author Shutta Crum |
| Thursday | 14 | Author Frank Hadley Murphy discusses his book The Spirit of Tea with samples from Tea Haus of Ann Arbor • HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANN ARBOR BOOK FESTIVAL • TRAVERWOOD BRANCH |
| Thursday | 14 | Biobanking in Michigan? • A panel discussion moderated by Susan King of the UM Life Sciences & Society Program and George Lambrides of the Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County |
| Friday | 15 | Ann Arbor Book Festival Author Reception • Meet many of the Festival authors on the eve of the day-long Street Festival |
| Saturday | 16 | Author Gary D. Schmidt discusses his teen novels and announces the Winners of the 2009 Teen Short Story Contest ANN ARBOR BOOK FESTIVAL, VANDENBURG ROOM OF THE MICHIGAN LEAGUE |
| Sunday | 17 | Learning Is A Family Thing: Healthy Families • ALL AGES Nutrition, exercise and education tips for a healthy family! DOWNTOWN 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM |
| Tuesday | 19 | Selling On eBay with expert Carol Kamm , owner of the eBay consignment store, iSold It |
| Thursday | 21 | Biobanking: Where Do We Stand? • A panel discussion moderated by Susan King of the UM Life Sciences & Society Program and George Lambrides of the Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County |
| Thursday | 21 | Flower Gardening with Master Gardener Carol Brodbeck PITTSFIELD BRANCH |
| Wednesday | 27 | Multicultural Toolbox: Strategies for Raising Our Children with Culture(s), Language(s) and Pride with Frances Kai-Hwa Wang TRAVERWOOD BRANCH |
| Thursday | 28 | Kids! Submit Your Art for Jurying for the 2009 Kids' Art Fair PITTSFIELD BRANCH • ALSO: Sunday, May 31, 1:00 - 4:00 pm |
| Thursday | 28 | Mystery Author Night: Elmore Leonard and Peter Leonard will be interviewed by Loren D. Estleman |

For more information, call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org

aches and pains. But her affections lie elsewhere, and soon the entire household is engaged in an elaborate, uproarious plot to save true love. 7:30 p.m., **Huron High School Theater**, 2727 Fuller Rd. at Huron Pkwy. Tickets \$8 (students & seniors, \$6) in advance and at the door. 994-2096.

"Urinetown": Pioneer High School Theater Guild. Apr. 25 & 26 and May 1-3. Robert Hartwell directs Pioneer students in Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis's Tony-winning musical comedy about a city in the midst of a drought so devastating that a malevolent corporation has been able to take control of all the toilet facilities. *Newsday* critic Linda Winer calls it "elevated silliness of the highest order that makes a gratifying case for the restorative return to knowing foolishness and the smartly absurd." 7:30 p.m., **Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium**, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. \$12 & \$25 (students, seniors, & Pioneer faculty, \$8) in advance at Morgan & York (1928 Packard) and at the door. 994-2120.

★Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. May 1, 15, & 29. All invited to join this ongoing study group to discuss Rudolf Steiner's book *Lectures on Karmic Relationships*, vol. 6. Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. 8-9:30 p.m., 33 Ridgeway East, 1 block east of the Arb entrance on Geddes. Free. 662-6398.

"Norma Gentile and Ann Arbor Kirtan: An Evening of Meditation and Sacred Chant": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. A group performance of traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet/saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. Followed by a performance by Norma Gentile, a local soprano and "sound shaman" whose repertoire of rhapsodic chants includes both originals and works by 12th-century mystic Hildegard von Bingen. Gentile accompanies herself on a Tibetan singing bowl and a shruvi box, an Indian drone instrument resembling an accordion. 8 p.m., **Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth**, 704 Airport Blvd. Tickets \$20 in advance at healingchants.com and at the door. 327-0270.

Adam Unsworth: Kerrytown Concert House. This U-M horn professor is joined by pianist Ellen Rowe, drummer Sean Dobbins, vibes player Cary Kocher, and a bassist TBA. The program includes jazz standards and originals from Unsworth's 2008 CD *Next Step* and from *Excerpt This!*, his 2006 CD that *All About Jazz* critic Ken Kase calls "an open challenge to anyone who might not think of the French horn as the optimal instrument for a jazz soloist." 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10, \$15, & \$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

John Flynn: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Philadelphia singer-songwriter whose music blends roots folk and country musical forms with socially conscious lyrics known for their disarming blend of clear-eyed honesty and humor. 8 p.m., **FUMC Green Wood Church**, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

"Fiddler on the Roof": Father Gabriel Richard High School. Apr. 30-May 3. Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick's classic musical adapted from Sholem Aleichem's tales of Jewish life in early-20th-century Russia. When the poor dairyman Tevye searches for husbands for his daughters, they reject tradition, as Russia rumbles towards revolution. The popular score's many familiar songs include "If I Were a Rich Man," "Sunrise, Sunset," and "To Life." 8 p.m., **Riverside Arts Center**, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. \$5. 662-0496.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. Every Wed.-Sun. through May 30. Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of local playwright Michael Brian Ogden's comedy about a passionate Liverpool football fan whose bachelorhood is called into question when he enlists the help of an attractive woman to get his best mate to the pub for an all-important pregame ritual. 8 p.m., **Purple Rose**, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets \$25 (Sun. eves., Wed. & Thurs.), \$33 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & \$38 (Fri. & Sat. eves.) in advance and at the door. 433-7673.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. Every Thurs.-Sun., Apr. 23-May 24. Tim Rhoze directs August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, set in a decaying Pittsburgh neighborhood in 1957, about an embittered former Negro League baseball star, excluded during his prime from the still-segregated Major Leagues, who tries in his own blundering way to do right by his family. Unsparring in its depiction of human failings, the play examines the larger questions of blame, guilt, and redemption. Cast: Lynch Travis, Sheila Slaughter, Julian Gant, Michael Joseph, and James Bowen. 8 p.m., **Performance Network**, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: \$22 (Apr. 26 & 30), and \$30 (Apr. 25). May 1 opening night tickets: \$39 & \$41 includes reception. After May 1: \$27 & \$29 (Thurs.), \$32 & \$34 (Fri. & Sun.), \$25 & \$27 (Sat. matinee), \$39 & \$41 (Sat. eve.). \$3 discounts available for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available

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films

The Counterfeiters

An artist in
"The Devil's Workshop"



During World War II, dozens of Jews skilled in the printing trade were placed in isolated, top-secret barracks within the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. There, under threat of death, they counterfeited British currency worth more than £130 million. Nazi spies deposited these forged notes in bank accounts throughout Europe. Upon inspection, even the Bank of England believed that the bills were genuine. The Nazis called it Operation Bernhard, and it was the largest counterfeit scheme in history.

The Counterfeiters (Stefan Ruzowitsky, 2007), winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, is based on these real events, as documented in Adolf Burger's book *The Devil's Workshop*. Salomon "Sally" Sorowitsch (Karl Markovics), the film's protagonist, is a fictionalized character, loosely based on a notorious counterfeiter Burger befriended while imprisoned in Sachsenhausen.

In his life before the war, Sally is a self-satisfied criminal, ladies' man, and "the world's best counterfeiter." A gifted illustrator, he attends a prestigious art school in Russia but wonders, "Why make money making art, when I can make money making money?"

Before the war, Sally is arrested in Berlin for attempting to counterfeit American dollars. Because he is Jewish, he is eventually transported to Auschwitz. There, he is given extra food for painting portraits of SS officers and their families and a Nazi-glorifying mural outside the camp.

Transferred to Sachsenhausen, Sally becomes head of quality control for Operation Bernhard. He and his fellow inmates will be killed if they fail to successfully counterfeit

the British pound and the American dollar. But they are also certain that they will be killed after the operation is complete, and they know that their success in counterfeiting is funding the Nazi war effort.

For Sally there is a profound irony to his role in Operation Bernhard. He has been provided with the most modern machinery and an elite team of skilled craftsmen and forced to utilize his greatest skills for what—in his life before the war—would have been his crowning achievement. Part of the fascination this film holds is in watching the details of the counterfeiting operation, seeing a master craftsman at work perfecting his masterpiece. When Adolf Burger (August Diehl) suggests to Sally that they sabotage their own efforts, Sally resists, arguing they will all be killed. "Is this about surviving—or proving that you can forge the dollar?" Burger challenges.

Throughout the film, Sally's survive-another-day-at-all-costs mentality comes into conflict with Burger's political idealism. *The Counterfeiters* is a compelling drama, a cinematic masterwork, and a significant contribution to the body of movies about the Holocaust, on a par with *Schindler's List* and *The Pianist*.

—Lizzi Wolf

in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. \$10 student discounts available in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663-0681; to charge by phone, call 663-0696.

Bill Hildebrandt: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Apr. 30 and May 1 & 2. This veteran Detroit-area comic is known for his clever, good-natured, often surprising topical and observational humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking shows. 8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$5 (Thurs.) & \$7 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$8 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

"Friday Night Swing": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association. Every Fri. Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring hard-sole shoes. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. 8:45-11:45 p.m., Dakota Bldg., 1785 W. Stadium. \$5 (includes lessons; students, \$3). 972-9141, 417-9857.

2 SATURDAY

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. May 2 & 10. Presented by naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck. Today: "Bird Hike." Bring binoculars and a field guide. Also this month: "Mother's Day Wildflower Hike" (May 10). 7:30 a.m. (May 2) & 1 p.m. (May 10), park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$2. Preregistration required. \$4 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Sat. Beginner-friendly slow-paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30 to 80 miles) round-trip rides to the Dexter Bakery. A very popular ride. Note: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone or change for a phone call, and snacks. Also, at sunrise at Wheeler Park, "Sunrise Saturday Ride," a very slow-paced 22-mile ride (662-0205) to Dexter for

breakfast. On May 9 only: "Border to Border Trail Ride" (11:30 a.m., meet at the Bandemer Park entrance off Barton Dr. at Whitmore Lake Rd.), a very leisurely, family-friendly 22-mile ride. (662-0205) along Washtenaw County's Border to Border trail, with a stop in Ypsilanti's Depot Town for lunch. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., or at Barton Park, Huron River Dr. Free. For information, call 996-9461 (May 2 breakfast ride), 994-6340 (May 9), 769-1025 (May 16), 996-4985 (May 23), 994-3001 (May 30).

***Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** May 2, 3, 16, 17, 23, & 31. All invited to help city parks natural area preservation staff maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Also, city staffers lead a short nature walk at the end of each workday. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. Today: trips to **Greenview Nature Area** (9 a.m.-noon, meet at the Greenview Park sign across from Barnard Rd. on Greenview Rd. off Scio Church Rd. west of S. Seventh St.) to spread woodchips, maintain trails, and clean up the area and to **South Pond Nature Area** (noon-3 p.m., meet at the park steward's house, 4150 Thornoaks, off E. Huron River Dr. just west of Hogback) to join a canoe trip to clean debris from the river. Bring a canoe and wet suit if you have them; if not, wear rubber boots and use one of the city canoes. Also this month: trips to **Redbud Nature Area** (May 3, 1-4 p.m., meet at the Redbud Nature Area entrance on the northern end of Parkwood at Jeanne St. off Packard 2 blocks west of Pittsfield Blvd.) to remove invasive plants, to **Wurster Park** (May 16, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., meet at the cul de sac of Edgewood off W. Davis between Third & Fifth St.) to spruce it up, to **Buhr Park** (May 16, 4-6 p.m., 2751 Packard) to remove invasives from the children's wet meadow, to **Bird Hills Park** (May 17 & 31, 1-4 p.m., meet at the Newport Rd. entrance just north of M-14) to help construct and maintain the trails, and to **Lakewood Nature Area** (May 23, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., meet at Lakewood Elementary School parking lot off Gralake, 3 blocks south of Jackson)

WALT DISNEY'S

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Sunday, May 24 @ 3 PM &
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2008-2009 Pease Chamber Concert Series

Arianna String Quartet

with Zhihua Tang piano

Sunday, May 3, 2009 — 4:00 PM
Pease Auditorium — Eastern Michigan University
Free Admission

PROGRAM

Quartet in E-flat Major, op. 12 Felix Mendelssohn
Quartet No. 1 ("Kreutzer Sonata") Leoš Janáček
Piano Quintet in E-flat Major, op. 44 Robert Schumann

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Performing Arts Treasures

at Our Doorstep

- **May 7 – Gilbert and Sullivan–Alive!** The highly regarded U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society has performed every show in the G&S canon. Its "Pretty Committee" (repertory group) will perform and offer historical background.
- **May 14 – Michigan's Own Shakespeare Festival.** University of Michigan Professor John Neville-Andrews will show illustrations and describe this gem's history and upcoming performances.
- **May 21 – The Bard in the Arb and Tennessee in Moscow.** Professor Kate Mendeloff and Dramaturg Leonara Ivanitsky will whet our interest in the Residential College summer Shakespeare traveling performances in the U-M Arboretum. Their illustrated presentation includes experiences in Moscow where students performed to acclaim.
- **May 28 – Aaron Dworkin Presents Sphinx.** The Sphinx Organization envisions a world where classical music reflects cultural diversity and plays a role in the everyday lives of youth.
- **June 4 – Sing Out in Style.** A representative group from the famed Ann Arbor Cantata Singers will perform music illustrating the transition from Renaissance to Baroque. Warren Puffer directs concerts throughout the community.
- **June 11 – A Perfect Way to End the Year at OLLI.** The Saline Fiddlers astound audiences with polished performances. All students are from Saline High School. A representative group, "Fiddlers Restrung," will perform.

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Evening Appointments Available

2345 S.Huron Parkway, Ann Arbor • Parkway Center (Purple Victorian)

to help native plants like bloodroot, hepatica, and jack-in-the-pulpit get established. Also, on May 16, annual **Downtown Cleanup Day** (9 a.m.–noon, meet at Liberty Plaza) is followed at noon by a free pizza-and-pop lunch for cleanup volunteers. Bring work gloves, brooms, and planting trowels, if you have them. Various times & locations. Free. 996-3266.

2nd Annual Braun and Helmer Farm Festival: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds. This festival is highlighted by a live auction of farm-related items, a tractor show, a tractor pull, and the **Bigger Than Texas** flea market. Also, a kids pedal pull, a toy show, a petting zoo, a bake sale, and more. Concessions. 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. \$2 (kids age 11 & under, free). 368-1733.

★**Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Mayor John Hieftje presents an update on the city's progress in the "green revolution." Followed by discussion. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. 9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973-5593.

★**"Work Party": Community Farm of Ann Arbor.** All invited to help spruce up this working farm by sifting soil, weeding, painting, or doing carpentry. Also, a maypole dance. Bring a bag lunch. Followed at 5 p.m. by a vegetarian potluck (bring a dish to pass). 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Community Farm of Ann Arbor, 1525 S. Fletcher Rd. (south off Dexter-Chelsea Rd.), Chelsea. Free. 433-0261.

★**"Free Comic Book Day": Vault of Midnight.** Graphic novelist Paul Hornschemeier and comic book artist Jay Brant give impromptu sketch demos and sign comics. Also, free comic books and ice cream. 10 a.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main St. Runs as long as supplies last. 998-1413.

★**Waterloo Recreation Area.** Every Sat. Programs presented by WRA park interpreter Kathy Kavanaugh unless otherwise noted. Today: **"Brunch with the Bluebirds,"** a talk about bluebird natural history, along with a snack. Also this month: **"Pressed Flowers"** (May 9). Hands-on introduction to this craft. **"Where the Wild Things Live"** (May 16, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.). Spring festival featuring live animal displays, nature talks, a bog walk, and more. **"Guided Tour for Shutterbugs"** (May 30, 1–5 p.m.) is a driving tour for amateur and professional photographers to 3 sites in the park. 11 a.m. unless otherwise noted above, Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. \$6 vehicle entry fee. 475-3170.

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** Every Sat. Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids. 11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. Every Sat. All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole disc golf courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$5 per player; free for spectators. \$4 vehicle entrance fee. 449-4300.

U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. Every Sat. & Sun. Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. **The Sky Tonight** (1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both days) is an exploration of the current night sky. **Black Holes** (12:30 p.m. Sat. only) is an animated show that begins with the formation of the early Universe and the birth and death of stars and concludes with a simulated flight to a supermassive black hole lurking at the center of the Milky Way. **Hubble Vision** (2:30 p.m. both days) is an audiovisual show about the discoveries made by the Hubble Space Telescope. 12:30, 1:30 & 2:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$4.75. 764-0478.

"Super Science Shows": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Every Sat. & Sun. Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. Also, the popular monthly **"Sciencepalooza"** (10 a.m.–4 p.m. on May 2 & noon–4 p.m. on May 3) features hands-on experiments and activities. This month's theme: **Nano Days.** 1 & 3 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. Regular museum admission: \$8 (members & infants, free). 995-5439.

★**"Cinco De Mayo Pinata": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 (assisted by an adult, if necessary) invited to make a mini-pinata. Supplies provided. 1–2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★**Warhammer/Warmachine Open Play: Get Your Game On.** Every Tues., Thurs., & Sat. All invited to play these 2 tactical miniatures board games. 2 p.m. (Sat.) & 5 p.m. (Tues. & Thurs.), Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786-3746.

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** Every Sat. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners

felines



Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers Cat Show

Dr. Snuggs would hate it

The auditorium is lined with rows and rows of cat houses; big, beautiful comfy cat houses. Although this is only one of the many Cat Fanciers pedigreed cat shows held around the country, it's my first, and I'm impressed by the individual flair of each cat house's décor. One has a lush purple interior with intricate glass baubles hanging from the front. Another is decorated with fabric that looks like piano keys. When they aren't being shown to the judges in the U-shaped arena, the cats lie around, either inside their houses or nearby on a table or chair. A few deign to bat at toys offered by adoring owners, but for the most part they sleep or lounge and look around.

None of the cats seem at all perturbed. I don't even want to think about what would happen if I shoved my cat into a container (even one as nice as these), drove him in the car, and then carried him over to a stranger who held him by the tail while running his hand backwards up his backside. Before that judge got halfway done he'd

have only a shred of arm left, and Dr. Snuggs would shoot underneath something, hissing furiously, with saucer-sized eyes.

But these are show cats. They take in all of the handling—and the primping and coddling—with an air of feline entitlement.

A teenage boy, maybe sixteen, is holding a completely hairless cat upside down on his lap like a baby. His mother takes another cat from its cage and wipes it down with what appears to be baby wipes. "How do you keep him from running around?" I ask (without hair, it's easy to tell this cat

is a male). "Oh, you just hold him. But he's not going anywhere—he's getting his foot rubbed." The cat looks at me, upside down. "Yeah," the boy says to him. "You're my baby."

For the finals, people crowd around the little judging areas. Each specimen is brought to the judges' table and felt up like there's no tomorrow. After each manhandling, the judge takes a wand with wiggly things on the end and offers it to the cat, who politely obliges by batting at it. It's as if he knows he's the cutest thing on earth.

"I just love his big, bold rectangular body and darling little nose," one judge says while hanging a ribbon on a cage. "And he is our tenth best cat!" The onlookers respond with polite golf claps, but by the time we've reached the Best In Show ("Look at this nicely balanced body and warm cream coat, it's like vanilla ice cream!") the owners are shrieking and hugging each other. "It's OK," one woman croons to her Siamese as she carries it back to their little haven. "We're all done now."

The Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers Show returns to the U-M Coliseum on Saturday, May 9.

—Charmie Gholson

welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. 2-4 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761-1115.

"Afro-Brazilian Dancing": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All invited to try a variety of Afro-Brazilian dance styles. 1-2 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers, 2007 S. State. \$15. 945-8602.

"The Cricket in Times Square": Wild Swan Theater. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

***"Cooking Demos": Morgan & York.** Every Sat. With Morgan & York staffers. Tastings. Today and May 16 & 30: sweet crepes. Preceded at 2 p.m. by a talk on "Great Pairings: Wine & Food." May 9 & 23: savory crepes. Preceded at 2 p.m. by a talk on "Wine Regions of Southern France." 3-4 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. Free. 662-0798.

***Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment.** Kids of all ages and musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. Preceded at 3 p.m. by a kids drum circle (\$10) hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. 4-5 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662-8283.

***In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion of *Tambourines to Glory*, Langston Hughes' novel set in 1950s Harlem about 2 poor young women who start a church on a sidewalk and end up packing a 1,000-seat sanctuary. 4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

***Concordia Jazz Ensemble: Concordia University.** Sean Dobbins directs this student ensemble in a program ranging from funk to blues to swing. 4 p.m., Concordia University Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-7300.

***Spring Concert: Treetown Community Chorus.** David Perampl directs this independent local mixed chorus in a varied program TBA. 4 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free; donations accepted. 213-7670.

U-M Softball vs. Iowa. May 2 & 3. The May schedule also includes a doubleheader against Ohio State (May 6, 4 p.m.) and a single game vs. MSU (May 8, 6 p.m.) 6 p.m. (Sat.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), Alumni Field (behind

Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. \$4 (youths age 12 & under, \$2; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

***Board Game Night: Get Your Game On.** Every Thurs. & Sat. All invited to bring a favorite board game or play one of the store's. 6 p.m., Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786-3746.

"Urinetown": Pioneer High School Theater Guild. See 1 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"The Imaginary Invalid": Huron High Players. See 1 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Fiddler on the Roof": Father Gabriel Richard High School. See 1 Friday. 1 & 8 p.m.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Bill Hildebrandt: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Marlin Whitaker calls to music by The Millers. All dances taught; no partner needed. Preceded by a free open jam for string and other musicians. 3-6 p.m. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$9 (members, \$8; students, \$5). Dance: 769-1052. Open jam: 994-9307.

***"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club.** May 2 & 16. Tango dancing to recorded music. Note: People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room (May 2) & U-Club (May 16). Free. 973-2338.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. May 2 & 15. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing, with recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by a DJ (May 2) and the local rock and blues band Sparks (May 15). Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. Preceded at 8 p.m. by free dance lessons. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$8 (PWP members, \$6). 433-1668.

Bleeding Red

a World Premiere comedy
by Michael Brian Ogden

Directed by Guy Sanville

Now showing through May 30



The Purple Rose Theatre Company
Box Office: (734) 433-ROSE (7673)
Buy online: www.purplerosetheatre.org

What color
do you bleed?



2009 Ann Arbor Antiques Market

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd
Ann Arbor MI 48103

May 16th and 17th

Come to the 3rd annual *Antiques in the Garden Market!*

Two Great Antique Traditions Unite, Ann Arbor Antiques Market and Schmidt's Antiques!

Appraisals by Schmidt's Antiques Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm.

Sunday Auction by Schmidt's Antiques Sunday 10:00

New Times:

8am-4pm Saturday

9am-4pm Sunday

Show Manager

Doug Supinger

#937.875.0808



2009 Market Dates

May 16th -17th

June 20th - 21st

July 18th - 19th

August 15th - 16th

September 19th - 20th

October 17th - 18th

For directions and all other information:

www.annarborantiquesmarket.com

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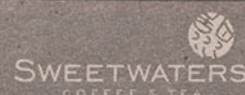
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1820 - Present

★ **March 1 - July 1** ★
Museum on Main Street
500 N. Main St.
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Open to the public
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PHONE: 734-662-9092

Chinese Music, Musicians, and
a Yo-Yo Demonstration at the Museum May 31st.

Volunteers from the Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County
will be at the museum the first Sunday of each month during the
exhibition to help patrons discover their own immigrant story.

FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING



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demos, prize drawings,
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The studio will be closed on Friday,
June 5th to prepare for the sale.

170 Enterprise Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734.213.0017

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed
with the daily Events.

Docu Fest. Screening of a different documentary
film every Mon. (except May 25) beginning May 11.
FREE. 662-5414. Dominick's 2nd floor, 812 Mon-
roe, 7 p.m.

May 11: "Zeitgeist Addendum" (Peter Joseph,
2008). Documentary polemic about the sources of
the corruption of the global sociopolitical system.

May 18: "Loose Change: Final Cut" (Dylan Av-
ery, 2007). Documentary polemic that makes the
case that the 9/11 attacks were planned by the Amer-
ican government.

Dreamland Theater. May 21: "The Hobo Film
Festival." Screening of *Hobo*, John Davis's 1992
documentary that follows one man's 2,000-mile ille-
gal train-hopping trip from Minneapolis through the
Rockies to Seattle. Followed by several short films
about hobos. \$7. 657-2337. Dreamland Theater (26
N. Washington, Ypsilanti), 7 p.m.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. May 29: "For-
giveness: Stories of Our Time" (Joanna Lunn, 2007).
Documentary about 4 people who have survived
unimaginably painful and horrific violence and con-
fronted the choice between revenge and forgiveness.
Followed by discussion. FREE. 994-3387. Jewel
Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. just north of W. Ells-
worth), 7 p.m.

Jewish Film Festival. Annual festival of docu-
mentary and feature films on Jewish themes. Tick-
ets \$10 (festival pass, \$75) unless otherwise noted.
971-0990. Michigan Theater, various times.

May 3: "The Little Traitor" (Lynn Roth, 2008).
Adaptation of the Amos Oz novel about the unlikely
friendship that develops between an 11-year-old Is-
raeli boy and a British soldier during the British oc-
cupation just prior to independence. FREE. 10 a.m.
"Noodle" (Ayelet Menahemi, 2007). Comic drama
about a widowed Israeli flight attendant who must
care for a 6-year-old when his mother—her Chinese
maid—is unexpectedly deported. Hebrew, subtitles.
8 p.m.

May 4: "Four Seasons Lodge" (Andrew Jacobs,
2008). Documentary about the final season of a
community of Holocaust survivors who come to-
gether each summer in the Catskills to celebrate
their lives. 1:30 p.m. "Love and Dance" (Eitan
Anner, 2006). Drama about a young boy torn by
the cultural conflicts between his Israeli father and
Russian-born mother. Hebrew, subtitles. 5 p.m. "A
Secret" (Claude Miller, 2007). A sickly boy discov-
ers his Jewish roots and some troubling facts about
those closest to him and then, as a 37-year-old child
psychologist, is summoned to search for his father.
French, subtitles.

May 5: "The Counterfeiters" (Stefan Ruzowitzky,
2007). See review, p. 45. Oscar-winning drama
about the moral dilemmas of a German Jew, an ex-
pert counterfeiter, who is enlisted by the Nazis to
counterfeit foreign currency to undermine the Allied
economies. German, subtitles. 1:30 p.m. "Waltz

with Bashir" (Ari Folman, 2008). Animated mem-
oir of the director's experience as an Israeli sol-
dier in the 1982 Lebanon War. Hebrew, German,
English; subtitles. 5 p.m. "The Champagne Spy"
(Nadav Schirman, 2007). Documentary about Wolf-
gang Lots, a wealthy German horse breeder with
a rumored Nazi past who turns out to be an Israeli
spy against Egypt. Followed by a talk by Lotz's son,
Ann Arborite Oded Gur Arie. Hebrew & English,
subtitles. 8 p.m.

May 6: "Refusnik" (Laura Bialis, 2007). Docu-
mentary about the 30-year international movement to
free Soviet Jews. 1:30 p.m. "The Hope" (Ann Cop-
pel, 2008). Singer-songwriter Rick Recht and other
figures in the Jewish rock movement. Followed
by "Soul Tripping" (Michael Greenspan, 2009),
a documentary about a project to counter pres-
sures to assimilate by bringing tens of thousands of
young American Jews on free visits to Israel. "Love
Comes Lately" (Jan Schuette, 2007). Drama about
an aging Lothario, a fiction writer past his prime in-
vited to give a series of university lectures and read-
ings. Based on 3 Isaac Bashevis Singer stories. Otto
Tausig, Rhea Perlman. 8 p.m.

May 7: "Constantine's Sword" (Oren Jacoby,
2007). Documentary about former priest and ac-
claimed writer James Carroll's book about the ori-
gins and history of Christian anti-Semitism. 1:30
p.m. "The Purple Gang" (H.G. Manos, 2008).
Documentary about a brutal Detroit organized crime
ring during Prohibition. 5 p.m. "Sixty-Six" (Paul
Weiland, 2006). A sweet, goofy story, set in England
in 1966, about a boy whose Bar Mitzvah diminishes
in scale daily as his parents are distracted by the
threat of losing their business and their wayward
older son. 8 p.m.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is
a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films
are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For
complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org
or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted):
\$9 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$7; MTF
members, \$6.50). Michigan Theater, times TBA un-
less otherwise noted.

May 1-7: "Tokyo!" (Michel Gondry, Joon-ho Bong,
and Leos Carax; 2008). A triptych of three short dra-
mas set in Tokyo. Japanese & French, subtitles.

May 1, 3 & 5: "Harvard Beats Yale 29-29" (Kevin
Rafferty, 2008). Documentary about the thrilling
1968 football game in which the Crimson and the
Bulldogs, undefeated to that point, play their final
game against each other for the season. Tommy Lee
Jones.

May 2: "Howl's Moving Castle" (Hayao Miyazaki,
2004). Oscar-nominated Japanese anime love story
about an 18-year-old girl, cursed into an old wom-
an's body, and a wizard who can see through the
curse. Preceded by a ceremony honoring Observer
editor John Hilton, the 1st recipient of the annual
Leader in the Literary Arts (LILA) Award. Re-
freshments. Sponsored by the Ann Arbor Book Fe-
stival. \$30 (couples, \$50; film only, \$15; students,
seniors, & veterans film only, \$12) in advance at
aabookfestival.org & 369-3366 and at the door.
6:30 p.m.

5-km & 10-km events after May 1. Entry forms at
burnsparkrun.org. 747-6952.

★**Sunday Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring So-
ciety.** Every Sun. Today: "Classic Bike-a-Thon
Routes," 3 favorite rides (904-6431) from the Ecol-
ogy Center Bike-a-Thon: the fast-paced 96-mile "Wa-
terloo Wanderer," the moderate-paced 58-mile "Chel-
sea Metric," and the slow-paced 29-mile "County
Loop." Also this month: "Strawberry Lake Ride"
(May 10), fast-paced 75-mile (904-6431), moderate-
paced 55-mile (904-6431), and slow-paced 35-mile
(451-3210) rides to explore Strawberry Lake Road,
which is now paved. "Hathaway House Ride" (May
17), a fast-paced 85-mile ride (476-4944) to Bliss-
field for brunch at the 100-year-old Hathaway House
restaurant. "Memorial Day Sunday Democratic
Ride" (May 24, 904-6431), a ride whose pace and
destination are determined by the assembled riders.
"Zukey Lake Tavern Brunch Ride" (May 31), fast/
moderate-paced 70-mile (476-4944) and slow-paced
40-mile (451-3210) rides to Zukey Lake Tavern in
Pinckney for brunch. 9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park,
N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free.

★**30th Annual Show 'n' Shine Car Show: Ypsilanti
Area Street Rods.** Around 450 slick street rods, sleek
muscle cars, and elegant antique autos. 50s and 60s

May 8-14: "Shall We Kiss?" (Emmanuel Mouret,
2007). Romantic comedy about a chance meeting
between two potential lovers spliced with flashbacks
of the experiences that lead the woman to decline a
kiss from her new beau. French, subtitles.

May 13: "Kidneys" (Tony Visintainer, 2009). Com-
edy about a young guy who turns to charity fraud
when his uncle's death leaves him in a financial
slump. Sponsored by Peeking Productions. \$5.
(248) 390-0970. 6:30 p.m.

May 14: Sneak preview. "Away We Go" (Sam
Mendes, 2009). Comedy about a couple expecting
their first child who travel around the country look-
ing for the perfect place to start their family. Fol-
lowed by a Q&A with screenwriter and acclaimed
nonfiction writer Dave Eggers. The program is fol-
lowed at 10 p.m. by a VIP reception. Sponsored by
826michigan. Tickets \$20 (826michigan volunteers,
Michigan Theater members, and Ann Arbor Film
Festival members, \$15; VIP tickets, \$125) in advance
at 826michigan.org and, if available, at the door. Res-
ervations recommended. 761-3463. 7:30 p.m.

May 15-21: "Is Anybody There?" (John Crowley,
2008). Drama set in 1980s England about an unusu-
al boy who grows up in an old folks home. Michael
Caine. "Moscow, Belgium" (Christophe Van Rom-
paey, 2008). Romantic comedy about a 41-year-old
married mother who sparks the interest of the driver
of a car she hits. Flemish & Dutch, subtitles.

May 17: "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortu-
nate Events" (Brad Silberling, 2004). Family com-
edy about 3 young heirs and the greedy distant rela-
tive who tries to murder them. Jim Carrey. Kids age
12 & under, FREE. 1:30 p.m.

May 20: "15 Park Avenue" (Aparna Sen, 2005).
Drama about a young Calcutta woman with schizo-
phrenia. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a panel discussion
on schizophrenia. Proceeds benefit SPARSH, a foun-
dation that helps Indian children who need heart sur-
gery. Tickets \$15 (Michigan Theater members, \$12)
in advance at 668-8137 and at the door. 7 p.m.

May 22-28: "Valentino: The Last Emperor"
(Matt Tyrnauer, 2008). Documentary about the leg-
endary fashion designer Valentino with a behind-
the-scenes look at haute couture. English, Italian,
French; subtitles.

May 24 & 25: "Mary Poppins Sing-Along" (Robert
Stevenson, 1964). Sing-along version of this won-
derfully uplifting magical musical about the "practically
perfect" nanny who transforms the lives of the Banks
children in 1910 London. Julie Andrews, Dick Van
Dyke, Ed Wynn. With on-screen lyrics, interactive
props, and a costume contest. Cost TBA.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M
campus admission policy: No one under 18 admit-
ted without an adult. FREE. umich.edu/~animania.
MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 10 a.m.-mid-
night. May schedule TBA.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763-3500. Arbor
Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 9 p.m.
May 13: "George Clinton: Mothership Con-
nection" (Parliament/Funkadelic, 1998). Documentary
of a 1976 P-Funk concert in Houston.

music spun by a DJ. Also, muffler rapping contests,
in which parked street rodders stomp on the gas to see
whose engine is most deafening. Games, food ven-
dors, and a swap meet. Preceded on May 2 by kickoff
party (6-9 p.m.). 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Riverside Park near
Depot Town Ypsilanti. Free; donations appreciated.
484-3644, 649-7980, 483-6872, 485-7025.

★**First Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** Every
Sun. A weekly program open to all single adults in-
terested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas,
personal growth, and social and physical activities.
Today: local physician Paul Smith discusses "Hy-
pertension: Prevention and Control." Also this
month: local physician Jennifer Griggs on "The
Good Cancer?" (May 10), registered nurse Barb
Blue on "Psychiatric Illness: How Family and
Friends Can Help" (May 17), a potluck and plan-
ning meeting (May 24), and First Singles member
Carol Lee Charles leads a discussion on "Coping
with a Changing Economy" (May 31). 11 a.m.,
First Presbyterian Church Lewis Room (May 3, 10,
& 17) & Curtis Room (May 24 & 31), 1432 Washt-
enaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

★**Downtown Home & Garden Spring Lecture Se-
ries.** May 3 & 16. Today: Natt Demmon shows "How
to Grow Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms" in

3 SUNDAY

★**Annual Potawatomi Trail Hike: Sierra Club.**
All invited to join club members for a 17-mile hike
through hilly glacial terrain sprinkled with lakes.
Bring a sack lunch and water. Canceled if it rains. 8
a.m., carpool location TBA. Free. 483-0058.

31st Annual Burns Park Run: Burns Park PTO.
Around 1,000 people ages 5-85 attend this popular
family affair. This year's event offers 5-km and 10-
km chip-timed races, a 5-km walk along beautiful
tree-lined streets, and a half-mile kid-popular "fun
run" around the park. Awards for overall and male
& female winners in both races, male & female
masters, male & female grand masters, and male &
female top 3 per age group. Also, raffle prizes from
local merchants. This year's special guests are Olym-
pic weightlifters Cheryl Haworth and Cara Heads.
Bring your own chip or borrow one from race orga-
nizers. Proceeds benefit Burns Park PTO programs.
8:30 a.m. (5-km events), 8:40 a.m. (10-km run), &
10 a.m. (fun run), Burns Park, 1414 Wells. Entry
fees: \$15 (12 & under, \$12.50) for the 5-km & 10-
km events & \$5 (fun run) by Apr. 30 & \$5 extra for

your backyard. Also this month: local orchid grower Benny Gray discusses "Orchids" (May 10) for beginner and experienced orchid enthusiasts. Q&A. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (May 3) & 10 a.m.-1 p.m. (May 16, DH&G, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662-8122.

★"O-Meet": Southeastern Michigan Orienteering Club. All invited to try this at-your-own-pace sport of reading maps and compasses to follow an outdoor course. Maps, some compasses available. Note: Time is tentative. Noon-3 p.m., Silver Lake, Dexter Townhall Rd. (1 mi. north of North Territorial), Waterloo Recreation Area. Free. 834-2201.

★"Discover Your Own Immigrant Story": Washtenaw County Historical Society. Washtenaw County Genealogical Society members are on hand to help visitors explore their immigrant roots. In conjunction with the current Museum on Main Street exhibit *Coming to Washtenaw County*. Noon-4 p.m., Museum on Main Street, 500 N. Main. Free. 662-9092.

★St. Aidan's/Northside Presbyterian Wildlife Habitat Dedication: St. Aidan's Episcopal Church/Northside Presbyterian Church. A dedication ceremony for this new wildlife habitat, followed by live music TBA. Refreshments. 1 p.m., St. Aidan's/Northside, 1679 Broadway. Free. 663-5503.

Contact Improv. Every Sun. All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves contact with one or more partners, including improvisational lifts and other experimentations with gravity. You might find yourself upside down, so dress appropriately for easy movement. No partner required; beginners welcome. Today's program begins with an hour of formal instruction. Followed by discussion and socializing. 1-3 p.m., Mind Body Spirit Academe, 1785 W. Stadium. \$5-\$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604-4416.

★Children's Storytime: Liberty Borders. Every Sun. Borders staffers read stories for kids. 1 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. Every Sun. & Tues.-Fri. All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Sun. & Thurs.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy constructed (Wed.) and booster draft (Fri.) decks. Bring your own cards. 1 p.m. (Sun.) & 6 p.m. (Tues.-Fri.). Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. \$5 (Tues., free; Fri., \$15 includes cards). 786-3746.

★Ann Arbor Go Club. Every Sun. & Thurs. Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. 1-6 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m.-midnight (Thurs.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417-5547.

"Fiddler on the Roof": Father Gabriel Richard High School. See 1 Friday. 1 p.m.

Waterloo Natural History Association. May 3, 9, & 31. Today: "Strange Creatures of the Spring Pond." WNHA naturalist Tom Hodgson discusses little-known pond creatures like the delicate fairy shrimp and fierce diving beetles and shows how to "pour a pond" for yourself. Also this month: "Incredible Edibles Walk" (May 9, 1:30 p.m.). WNHA wild foods expert Tom Jameson leads a 90-minute hike to learn about edible wild plants available locally and then prepares some wild food dishes (with recipes) to sample. "Buzzing the Hive" (May 31). Beekeeper Jane Levy presents a hands-on introduction to how bees work together to build a hive and make honey. 2 p.m. unless otherwise noted, Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157, Chelsea). Free. \$6 vehicle entry fee. 475-3170.

★"Exploring the Fox Science Preserve": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. Hike led by local geologist John Russell. Other hikes this month, all led by WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner: "Exploring Scio Woods" (May 9, 1-3 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, north side of Scio Church Rd., west of Wagner Rd.). "Mother's Day Wildflower Walk" (May 10, 2-4 p.m., meet at Park Lyndon North, North Territorial Rd. east of M-52 to carpool to Embury Woods). "Spring Flowers of Lady Slipper Fen" (May 17, 2-4 p.m., Park Lyndon North). 2-4 p.m., Fox Science Preserve, off Peters Rd., north off Miller, Scio Twp. Free. 971-6337, ext. 334.

★"The Memory in the Mirror: Daughters Reflecting on Parentloss": Ann Arbor District Library. Arbor Hospice grief support services staff lead a discussion for women about ways to include their mothers in the legacy they create in their own lives. 2-4 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★"Kerry Tales: May Baskets for Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Hollander's, 407 N. Fifth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769-3115.

"Urinetown": Pioneer High School Theater Guild. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

Q:
What
should we
do this
weekend?

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THEATRE

FENCES
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A powerful, moving story about a former
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Saturday, May 16

There are 162 city parks in Ann Arbor. Which one is yours?



Planting · Mulching · General
Clean Up · Camaraderie · Fun
Refreshments provided.
All ages welcome!

For times & locations:

734.794.6627 /

adopt-a-park@a2gov.org /
a2gov.org/adopt-a-park

Downtown Blooms & Cleanup Day
also takes place May 16. For details:
734.794.6000 x.43112 / a2gov.org/green



The Adopt-A-Park program
promotes ongoing community
involvement in the advocacy,
upkeep & enjoyment of city parks.

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ITZHAK PERLMAN violin

Sun, Sep 13 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

BILL CHARLAP TRIO

Fri, Oct 2 | 7 PM & 9:30 PM
LYDIA MENDELSSOHN THEATRE

PUNCH BROTHERS AND CHRIS THILE

Wed, Oct 7 | 8 PM
POWER CENTER

ALISA WEILERSTEIN cello

Thu, Oct 8 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

SUZANNE FARRELL BALLET

FRI-SAT, OCT 9-10 | 8 PM
Sat, Oct 10 | 1 PM (FAMILY PERF)
POWER CENTER

**RAVI SHANKAR AND
ANOUSHKA SHANKAR**

Thu, Oct 15 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

**LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST
SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE THEATRE**

DOMINIC DROMGOOLE artistic director

Tue, Oct 20	8 PM
Thu-Sat, Oct 22-24	8 PM
Sun, Oct 25	2 PM

POWER CENTER

**HEAVENLY HARMONIES
STILE ANTICO**

Tue, Oct 27 | 8 PM
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CATHOLIC CHURCH

BELCEA QUARTET

Fri, Oct 30 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

CHRISTINE BREWER soprano

Sun, Nov 1 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

**KEITH TERRY AND THE
SLAMMIN' ALL-BODY BAND**
FAMILY PERFORMANCE

Fri, Nov 6 | 7 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

GAL COSTA AND ROMERO LUBAMBO

Sat, Nov 7 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET

Sun, Nov 8 | 4 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

131ST SEASON
umms



YASMIN LEVY

Sat, Nov 14 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

BERLIN PHILHARMONIC

SIMON RATTLE conductor

Tue, Nov 17 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

**COULDA, WOULD, SHOULD
PATTI LUPONE**

Fri, Nov 20 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

**CHRISTMAS IN VIENNA
VIENNA BOYS CHOIR**

Sun, Nov 29 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

UMS CHORAL UNION
ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
JERRY BLACKSTONE conductor

Sat, Dec 5 | 8 PM
Sun, Dec 6 | 2 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET piano

Sat, Dec 12 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

SOUAD MASSI

Fri, Jan 8 | 8 PM
MICHIGAN THEATER

**FONDLY DO WE HOPE...
FERVENTLY DO WE PRAY
BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE
DANCE COMPANY**

Fri-Sat, Jan 22-23 | 8 PM
POWER CENTER

OPERA IN CONCERT:
BARTÓK'S BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE
CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
PIERRE BOULEZ conductor
MICHELLE DEYOUNG mezzo-soprano
FALK STRUCKMANN bass-baritone

Wed, Jan 27 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO

Sun, Jan 31 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

THE BAD PLUS

Thu, Feb 4 | 7 PM & 9:30 PM
LYDIA MENDELSSOHN THEATRE

SÔ PERCUSSION

Sat, Feb 6 | 7:30 PM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MUSEUM OF ART

ANGELA HEWITT piano

Wed, Feb 10 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

LUCIANA SOUZA TRIO

LUCIANA SOUZA vocals
ROMERO LUBAMBO guitar
CYRO BAPTISTA percussion

Thu, Feb 11 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

SCHUBERT PIANO TRIOS

DAVID FINCKEL cello
WU HAN piano
PHILIP SETZER violin

Sun, Feb 14 | 4 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

**BÉLA FLECK:
THE AFRICA PROJECT**

Wed, Feb 17 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

SWEDISH RADIO CHOIR

RAGNAR BOHLIN conductor

Sun, Feb 21 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

**CYRO BAPTISTA'S
BEAT THE DONKEY
FAMILY PERFORMANCES**

Sat, Mar 13 | 1 PM & 4 PM
POWER CENTER

TAKÁCS QUARTET

Mon, Mar 15 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

**JAZZ AT LINCOLN
CENTER ORCHESTRA
WITH WYNTON MARSALIS**

Wed, Mar 17 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS conductor
CHRISTIAN TETZLAFF violin

Fri, Mar 19 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS conductor
UMS CHORAL UNION
LAURA CLAYCOMB soprano
KATARINA KARNÉUS mezzo-soprano

Sat, Mar 20 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

**SOLO VIOLIN WORKS OF J.S. BACH
TWO CONCERTS**

JULIA FISCHER violin

Wed-Thu, Mar 24-25 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

**CHEKHOV'S UNCLE VANYA
MALY DRAMA THEATER
OF ST. PETERSBURG**

LEV DODIN artistic director

Thu-Sat, Mar 25-27 | 8 PM
Sun, Mar 28 | 8 PM
POWER CENTER

**SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN
FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA WITH
LANG LANG** piano

CHRISTOPH ESCHENBACH conductor

Wed, Apr 7 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

THINGS TO COME: 21ST CENTURY DIZZY**DANILO PEREZ & FRIENDS**

DANILO PEREZ piano
DAVID SANCHEZ tenor saxophone
RUDRESH MAHANTHAPPA alto saxophone
AMIR ELSAFFAR trumpet and voice
JAMEY HADDAD percussion
BEN STREET bass
ADAM CRUZ drums

Thu, Apr 8 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

BAABA MAAL WITH NOMO

Sat, Apr 10 | 8 PM
MICHIGAN THEATER

TRIO MEDIEVAL

Tue, Apr 20 | 8 PM
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

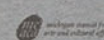
Thu-Sat, Apr 22-24 | 8 PM
POWER CENTER

**THE REST IS NOISE IN PERFORMANCE
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Sun, Apr 25 | 4 PM
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2009

"The Cricket in Times Square": Wild Swan Theater. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 2 & 7 p.m.

★**Ultimate Frisbee: Ann Arbor Ultimate.** Every Sun. (tentatively). All invited to join a pickup game of this spirited team sport. Note: Overly aggressive players are politely asked to leave. 3 p.m., Mitchell Field, Fuller Rd. Free. into@ultimate.org.

★**"Museum Architecture: A Look at the Evolution from Vault to Town Square":** U-M Museum of Art. Cranbrook Academy of Art director Reed Kroloff discusses UMMA's current "Museums in the 21st Century" exhibit. 3 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**"Booked for Murder" Mystery Book Club:** Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss 2 novels set in April. Louise Penny's *The Cruel Month* is the 3rd novel in her series about the small Quebec village of Three Pines and its chief inspector, who this time becomes a murder suspect when a woman apparently dies of fear at a séance. Carolyn Hart's *April Fool Dead* is the 13th novel in her series about Annie Darling, a mystery bookstore owner who this time is suspected of murder when one of her book signings seems linked to a teacher's death. 3:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769-2149.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. Every Sun. The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents marionette, rod, and shadow puppet shows for kids. Today: "Goldilocks and Red Riding Hood vs. the Monsters." 3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657-2337.

★**"Making Marks: Discovering the Ceramic Surface":** Yourist Studio Gallery. Screening of this video about English potter Robin Hopper. 4 p.m., Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662-4914.

★**"John Rutter Festival":** St. Paul Lutheran Church. St. Paul music director Tom Strode directs the church choir and orchestra in a program of sacred music by the renowned contemporary English choral composer that's highlighted by a setting of the Gloria, a festive piece for choir, brass, organ, and timpani. Also, "The Lord is my shepherd," "A Gaelic Blessing," "For the beauty of the earth," "Thy perfect love," and "The Lord Is My Light and Salvation." 4 p.m., St. Paul, 420 W. Liberty at Third St. Free; donations accepted. 665-9117.

Benefit Concert: Measure for Measure. South Lyon High School vocal music director Steve Lorenz conducts this lively 90-member local men's chorus in a program TBA. Proceeds benefit Evangelical Homes of Michigan's Memory Support Center in Saline. 4 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1200 N. Ann Arbor St., Saline. \$20 in advance and at the door. 429-1155, ext. 222.

★**Opera Concert: Arbor Opera Theater.** Members of this polished local opera company perform vocal works to celebrate its 10th anniversary. The program includes selections from operas by Verdi, Puccini, Donizetti, Menotti, Bernstein, Strauss, and Mozart. Accompanist is Kevin Bylsma. Followed by an afterglow with refreshments. 4 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William at S. State. Free; donations accepted. 332-9063.

★**Arianna String Quartet: Friends of Chamber Music at Pease.** Winner of the 1994 grand prize at the prestigious Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition, the Arianna is a former EMU quartet-in-residence that returns to perform a program TBA. Members are violinists John McGrosso and David Gillham, violist Robert Meyer, and cellist Kurt Baldwin. 4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 484-3237.

★**Ann Arbor Morris Dancers.** Every Sun. All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance based on the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. 6-8 p.m., Gretchen's House barn, 1580 Dhu Varren Rd. Free. 747-8138.

★**"A Circle of Drums":** Drumwomyn. Every Sun. All women invited to gather for a drumming session. Bring your own drum. 7-8:30 p.m., WRAP Resource Center, 325 Braun Ct. \$10. 913-9670.

U-M Ballroom Dancers. Every Sun. except May 17. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom (May 3, 24, & 31) & Michigan League Ballroom (May 10). \$3. 763-6984.

4 MONDAY

★**Storytime: Waters Place Borders.** Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs. Borders staff read from picture books and books for infants, babies, and toddlers. 10 a.m. (Mon. & Wed.) & 6 p.m. (Thurs.), Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997-8884.

Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army. Every Mon. except May 25. Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & over. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, Bible study and chair exercises. Followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and socializing. 10 a.m.-noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. \$1 donation. 668-8353.

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon. All seniors age 55 & over invited to play. Bring a partner. Also, at 1 p.m. Mah-Jongg (free). 12:30-3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$1. 769-5911.

★**Socrates Cafe: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 50 & older invited to join a discussion of ethics that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. 12:30-1:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**Writing Groups: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** Every Mon. All seniors invited to read and discuss the poetry, essays, reminiscences, and fiction they have written. 1-3 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★**"Smoothie King Recovery Ride":** Ann Arbor Velo Club. Every Mon. except May 25. Cyclists invited to join club members on this moderate-paced ride, 15-20 miles, down Huron River Drive to Dexter and back. 6 p.m., meet at Smoothie King, 222 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 827-2792.

★**"The Civilized Ride":** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Mon. Slow-paced ride, 12-18 miles, to Dexter, with a possible stop for ice cream. Other Mon. rides: "Paved Roads Country Roads Ride" (5 p.m., meet at Royster Clark, 885 Parker Rd. at Pine Cross Lane just south of Jackson Rd.), fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training rides, 18-24 miles (426-5116), along country roads west of town. "Back Roads Ramble" (9 a.m., meet at 960 Forest Rd. off Country Club Dr., Barton Hills), a slow-paced ride, 12-35 miles (761-2885, 663-5060), along dirt and gravel roads to Independence Lake and other low traffic destinations. On May 25 only: "Memorial Day Democratic Ride" (9 a.m., Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St.), a ride (994-6431) whose pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. 7 p.m. sharp, Wellington Park, Alice at Bruce St. (off Arborview from Miller). Free. 213-2908.

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus.** Every Mon. except May 25. Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. 7-9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 973-6084.

Dream Group. Every Mon. except May 25. All invited to join veteran local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. 7:30 p.m., 215 N. Seventh St. Donation. 662-5925.

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by Tim Tikker. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30-9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues). 213-3172.

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Every Mon. except May 25. Instruction in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. 7:30-9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver Rd. (off Nixon Rd.). \$5. 769-1052, 425-0241.

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Mon. Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. 8:30-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$5 team fee. 665-2968.

5 TUESDAY

★**Social Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Tues. & Wed. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. Also, at 10 a.m. Scrabble. 9:30 a.m.-noon (Tues.) & 12:45-4 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**Children's Hour: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Every Tues. Shaman Drum staff read picture books for kids ages 2-6. 11 a.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** Every Tues. Activities begin at 11 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar, followed at 1 p.m. by a chance to play mah-jongg, cards, and board games or join quilting and other craft projects. The program concludes at 1:30 p.m. with Yiddish Tish, a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon (\$3) available at noon. All invited. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971-0990.

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★**"Big Sky Ride":** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Tues. Moderate-paced ride, 20-35 miles, along flat, relatively quiet picturesque roads south of Ann Arbor. Other Tues. ride: **"Huron River Ride"** (6 p.m., meet at Rudolf Steiner School, 1655 Newport), a slow/moderate-paced ride, 18-40 miles (662-0205, 761-6253), to Dexter and back. 6 p.m., meet at York Baptist Church, 1220 Stony Creek Rd. at Platt. Free. 971-5763. 424-2802.

★**"Tuesday Evening Birders":** Washtenaw Audubon Society. Every Tues. WAS members Lathe Clafin and Mike Sefton or city ornithologist Dea Armstrong lead evening walks at various local birding sites. Bring binoculars and (if you have one) a scope. 6 p.m., meet at the Miller Rd. Park & Ride off M-14. Free. 994-3569, 668-2513.

★**"Knit Happens":** Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch. Every Tues. All knitters invited to bring their current projects to work on and swap knitting tips. 6:30-8:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 945-3035.

★**Common Thread Knitters Club.** May 5 & 19. All knitters invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. 7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**Ann Arbor Area Writers Group.** Every Tues. All local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. 7-9 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 665-8194.

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Tues. Historical and traditional English dancing. Today: Greg Meisner and Ray Bantle call to music by Brad Battey, Martha Stokely, and Betsy Foote. Also this month: callers Don Theyken and Dan Blim with music by Childgrove (May 12), callers Bantle and Meisner with music by Childgrove (May 19), and callers Bantle and Marty Wilson with music by David West, Donna Baird, and Foote (May 26). All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. 7-9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. \$7 (students, \$4; children age 13 & under, free). 665-7704.

★**Health Sessions: Washtenaw Whole Foods Market.** May 5, 12, 14, & 18. Talks by Whole Foods staff and local health practitioners. Today: staffer Katie Shafer on **"Mineral Makeup: Be Good to Your Whole Body."** Also this month: nutritionist Judy Stone on **"Stomach Acid and Acid Blocking Drugs: What You Need to Know to Heal Your Digestion"** (May 12), chiropractor Shannon Roznay on **"Depression Resolution"** (May 14), and nutritionist Cindy Clement on **"Don't Spend Another Season Wheezin' and Sneezin'"** (May 18). 7 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration requested. 975-4500.

★**"Positive Aging: Strategies for Growing Older":** Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion with U-M Turner Geriatric Clinic social worker Mary Rumman, U-M psychiatry professor Helen Kales, and local clinical social worker Lynn Stern. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★**"Philosophy, Psychoanalysis, and the A-Rational Mind":** Shaman Drum Bookshop. U-M Medical School adjunct psychiatry professor Linda Brakel discusses her reappraisal of psychoanalysis and the role it can play in the understanding of human nature. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**Sweet Adelines County Connection.** Every Tues. All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 40-member barbershop harmony chorus. 7-10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$20 monthly dues for those who join). 480-8843.

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** Every Tues. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Hummel at 445-1925.

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *El Infinito en la Palma de la Mano*, Gioconda Belli's retelling of the Adam and Eve story. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"The Swift Path":** Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Every Tues. Talks by Gehlek Rimpoché, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. 7:30-9 p.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (north of W. Ellsworth). \$10 (students & seniors, \$5). 994-3387.

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** May 5 & 19. Tonight: Club members Angela and Jim George present a slide-illustrated talk on **"Fotogypsies in Costa Rica: Challenges of Photography in the Rain Forest,"** and club members show their projected images on various topics, including "Gardens." Also this month: club

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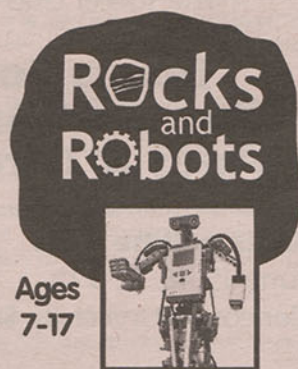
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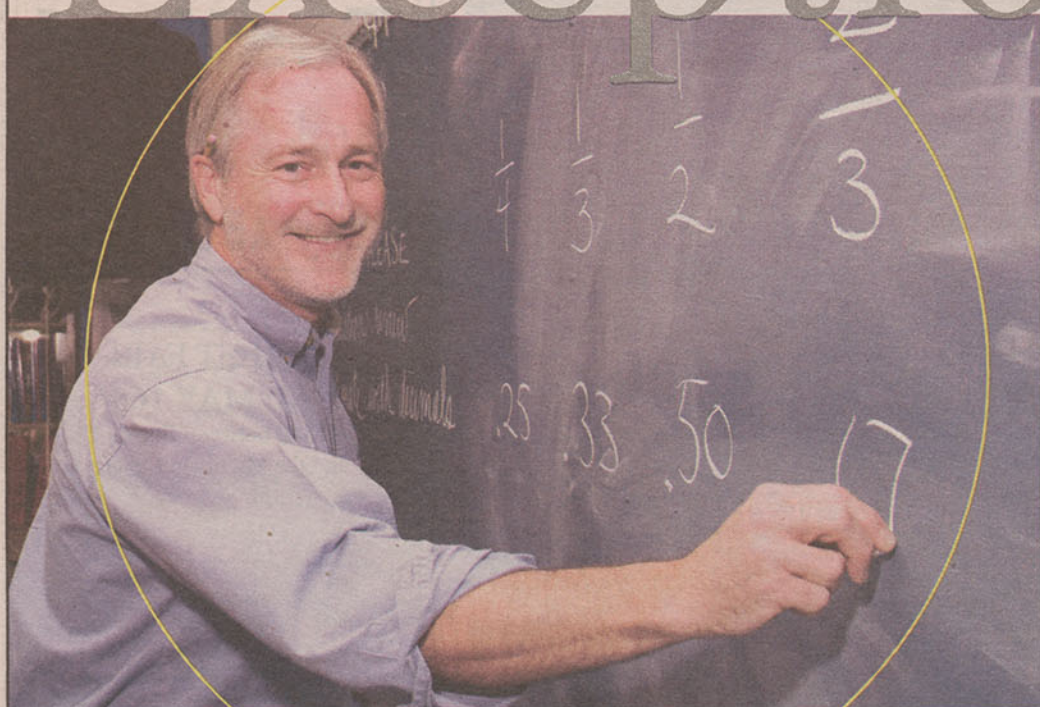
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Quaffable history

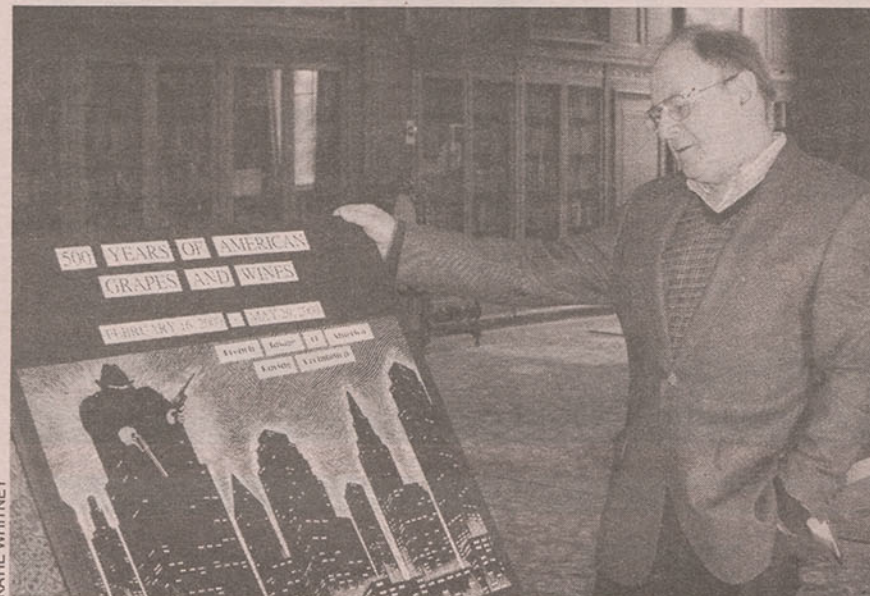
500 Years of American Grapes and Wine

U-M chemistry professor emeritus Daniel Longone curates the current exhibit at the Clements Library. His knowledgeability and elbow-patched blazer are quintessentially professorial—especially surrounded by the Clements' dark wood and ancient tomes.

It seems like the perfect setup for a hoity-toity exhibit about wine—but the collection, like Longone, turns out to be warm and informative. From colonial failures with European grapes to early American successes with native varieties, from Prohibition to cocktail culture, the exhibit explores the history of American wine making and alcohol consumption with a lighthearted emphasis on quirky anecdotes.

An 1823 letter Thomas Jefferson wrote to Georgetown winemaker John Adlum praises one of the bottles Adlum had sent him, but then goes on to write, "the 2nd bottle, a red wine, I tried when I had good judges at the table. We agreed it was a wine one might always drink with satisfaction, but of no particular excellence." Adlum printed the letter—despite its faint praise—as a foreword to his book. I wonder if Adlum was so thrilled with a letter from the former president that he completely ignored the dig. Or was the book world so different from today that no one would think of excerpting the letter and ending it with a quiet ellipsis after "satisfaction"? I secretly hope for the latter, creating an idealistic picture of early American honesty.

On the day I visited the exhibit, an older couple from Kalamazoo pored over a party menu from the early 1900s. They marveled



KATIE WHITNEY

at the wine selection that included a bottle of an 1810 Madeira and mused about a mention of maraschino cherries. Although they were there because they read about the exhibit in a "Wine Events" section of the *Wall Street Journal*, they (like me) lost themselves in the stories these books conjured.

A wine exhibit—even one confined to Americana—would hardly be complete without the French. Besides the American obsession with European wine that creeps its way into many of the books and the heavily French wine list of the London Chop House in 1969 Detroit (a must-see for wine buffs), the exhibit also includes two French drawings. An 1878 *Harper's Weekly* wood engraving of a California vineyard, created from a drawing by a French artist, depicts Chinese and American workers. Wild West cowboy hats mingle

with Chinese conical straw hats in a tableau that wouldn't be out of place on an episode of *Kung Fu*. In the other drawing, a French artist depicts America during Prohibition as a giant menacing gangster towering over a nondescript but utterly American city. His two pistol-holding fists pop starkly out of his massive silhouette. Both images seem equally fabled—America through the eyes of foreigners. Although in this room, I'm a foreigner, too, using these little treasures to piece together a picture of America and filling in the gaps with my own fables.

For those who crave more accuracy, Longone gives a lecture (see 10 Sunday events listing) about the exhibit, which runs through May 29.

—Katie Whitney

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Jewelry + Object* (May 15–June 21). Reception 29 Fri., time TBA. 994-8004.

Ann Arbor District Library, Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower Pkwy. *Ink Drawings on Paper by Aleksis Lahti* (May 2–June 16). 327-4510.

Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. *John Glick: New Works* (Apr. 26–May 29). Reception 1 Fri., 7–9 p.m. (see 17 Sunday events listing). 662-7927.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *Sculpture by Julia Ashcom* (May 4–15). 487-1268.

EMU Student Center Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Graphic Design by Kris Rudolph* (May 11–22). 528-3993.

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Road. *Acrylic & Multimedia Paintings by Barbara Anderson* (May 1–31). 665-6158.

Gallery 55+, 2401 Plymouth Rd. *Various Media*

by Kwang Cho, Kay Yun, and Sun Paik (May 4–July 31). Reception 17 Sun., 4–5:30 p.m. 998-9353.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Textiles by Sharon Fay and Recent Paintings by Nancy Wolfe* (May 1–June 30). Reception 13 Wed., 6–8 p.m. 769-2999.

Rehill Gallery, 1679 Broadway. *Photography by Sue Wyman* (through May 31). Reception Apr. 30, 7 p.m. 663-5503.

U-M Bentley Historical Library, 1150 Beal. *Dancing at 100: Celebrating a Century of Dance at the University of Michigan, 1909–2009* (through June 30). 764-3482.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel. *Home: Loving It, Losing It, Leaving It* (May 6–30). Reception 8 Fri., noon–6 p.m. 763-3266.

U-M Exhibit Museum of Natural History, 1109 Geddes. *Journeys of the Bison Hunters and Bird: It's What's for Dinner* (through Aug. 31). 763-4191.

U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. *What Untitled (History Painting): Painting and Public Life in the*

21st Century (May 23–Sept. 20) and *Treasures Rediscovered: Chinese Stone Sculptures from the Sackler Collections at Columbia University* (May 23–Aug. 16). 763-UMMA.

U-M Special Collections Library, Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, seventh floor. *Clues Beyond Sherlock Holmes: The Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at Michigan* (through Aug. 15). Reception 17 Sun., 3:30–5 p.m. (see 17 Sunday Antiquarian Book Fair listing). 764-9377.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Fortunes: Children's Gown Installations by Valerie Mann* (May 12–June 21). Reception 29 Fri., 7–10 p.m. 761-2287.

Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway. *Exquisite Cup: Cups by 28 Local Artists* (through June 29). Reception 8 Fri., 6–8 p.m. 662-4914.

Ypsilanti Historical Museum, 220 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *The Art Show: Works by Local Artists* (May 10–24). Reception 10 Sun., noon–5 p.m. 482-4990.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.

6 WEDNESDAY

ACBL Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Wed. & Thurs. All seniors age 50 & older invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. 12:45–4:15 p.m. (Wed.) & Noon–4 p.m. (Thurs.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$5. 769-5911.

Chess: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Every Wed. All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. 1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

"Population Medicine: A Bridge Between Public Health and Medical Care": U-M School of Public Health. Talk by U-M health management professor Paula Lantz. Followed by reception. 3:10 p.m., SPH Auditorium, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764-5433.

★Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers. Every Wed. All invited to play this popular word game. Bring a board and tiles, if you have them. 5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 114 E. Washington. Free. 994-0084.

★"West Side Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Wed. Moderate/fast-paced 25-mile and slow-paced, 13–18 miles, rides to the Dexter Dairy Queen and back. Now in its 32nd year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. Other Wed. ride: "Superior Salem Dirt Road" (9 a.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church parking lot, Gottfredson Rd. at Ann Arbor–Plymouth Rd., 248-437-5067, 663-5060, 663-8960, 482-5103), a slow/moderate-paced ride, 19 miles or more along gravel country roads. 6 p.m. sharp, meet at Sweepster parking lot, 2800 N. Zeeb Rd. Free. 426-5116 (longer ride), 665-4552 & 761-2659 (shorter ride).

members show their recent prints (May 19). 7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium (May 5), 1701 Newport, & Forsythe Middle School Media Center (May 19), 1655 Newport Rd. Free. 327-4781.

★German Speakers' Round Table. Every Tues. All German speakers invited for conversation. 8–10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453-2394.

"Firefly Funnies": The Firefly Club. Showcase of top local stand-up comics, along with some improv comedy. 8–11 p.m., Firefly Club, 637 S. Main. \$3. 665-9090.

★"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena. Every Tues. All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts, hats, and gift certificates. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. 10 p.m., The Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222-9999.

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"Natural Health and Raw Foods": Living Yoga. Every Wed. & May 21. Lecture-demo by local raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston and Health 101 Institute director Don Bennett (see People's Food Co-op listing below). Livingston hosts a raw food potluck on May 21 (1-3 p.m., location TBA at 995-0875). 6:30-8 p.m., Arbor Farms Market, 2103 W. Stadium. \$10. Preregistration required. 998-8111.

***Health Talks: People's Food Co-op.** May 6, 7, 12, & 28. Today: Australian physician and well-known raw food enthusiast John Fielder discusses "The Basic Principles of Living Naturally." Also this month: *Avoiding Degenerative Diseases* author Don Bennett and raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston give a food demonstration and discuss "The Healthiest, Most Effective Way to Lose Unwanted Body Fat" (May 7), local naturopath Diana Christoff Quinn discusses "Home Remedies for the Whole Family" (May 12), and local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt discusses "Herbs and Pain" (May 28). 7-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994-4589.

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. Every Wed. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. 7-11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) \$3 per person. 971-7530.

***"Washtenaw County Bike Rides": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Ann Arbor Cyclery owner John Kieft and local physician and avid biker Joel Howell, author of *A Guide to Road Rides in and around Ann Arbor* (see 20 Wednesday listing). 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

***"Transition Towns Film Series": Transition Ann Arbor.** Every Wed. Screening of documentary films followed by discussion about the Transition Towns movement that works to help towns use less oil. Today: *The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil*. Also this month: *A Crude Awakening: The Oil Crash* (May 13), *The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream* (May 20), and several YouTube interviews (May 27) with the Transition Towns movement founder Rob Hopkins. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. Free; donations welcome. 975-8791.

***Mei-Ling Hopgood: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This award-winning journalist reads from *Lucky Girl*, her memoir of her upbringing with her adoptive family in Michigan and her reunion in her 20s with her boisterous, complicated Taiwanese birth family. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

***Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 426-5100.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. May 6, 14, 21, & 28. Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

***"My Trivia Live": Pizza House.** Every Wed. All invited to join a team to enter a trivia contest. Prizes. 8:30-10:30 p.m., Pizza House, 618 Church. Free. 995-5095.

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Wed. Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. 9-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$3 team fee. 665-2968.

Wednesdays @ Michigan Union: Swing Ann Arbor. Every Wed. Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by intermediate swing (7:30 p.m.) and beginning swing (8:30 p.m.) lessons. 9:30-11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room (occasionally Ballroom or U-Club). \$5 (includes lessons). 945-8428.

7 THURSDAY

***"Spring Migration Walk in Nichols Arboretum": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Every Thurs. through May 28. All invited to join club members for a walk through the Arb to look for resident birds and early migrants, which begin arriving in earnest toward the end of April. 8-11 a.m., meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of Riverview off Geddes. Free. 994-3569.

"Performing Arts Treasures at Our Doorstep": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Every Thursday, May 7-June 11. A series of 6 lectures by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: "Gilbert & Sullivan—Alive!" a performance by the U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society repertory singers, who also discuss UMGASS history and productions. Also this month: U-M drama pro-

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fessor John Neville-Andrews on "Michigan's Own Shakespeare Festival" (May 14), U-M Residential College drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff and RC guest dramaturg Leonora Ivanitsky on "The Bard in the Arb and Tennessee in Moscow" (May 21), Aaron Dworkin on "The Sphinx Competition" (May 28), and performances by the Ann Arbor Cantata Singers (June 4), and the Saline Fiddlers (June 11). 10-11:30 a.m., Best Western Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. \$45 (members, \$30) for the 6-lecture series in advance, \$35 (members, \$20) per lecture at the door. Memberships are \$15 a year. 998-9351.

★Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. Current Events discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch (\$3 with reservation, \$4 without reservation and for non-seniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. Today: a 12:45 p.m. trip to the Jewish Film Festival at the Michigan Theater to see *Constantine's Sword* (see FILMS). Also this month: Kenville Dance Studio instructors lead the JCC Stars in a ballroom dance demo (May 14), U-M music professor Charlene Helton presents a program of vocal music (May 21), and local travel guide Heather O'Neal on "A Trek to Nepal" (May 28). 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals. Every Thursday. Performances by local musicians and dancers. Today: vintage American pop by the Choral Connection. Also this month: classic rock and Motown tunes by guitarist Daniel Goree and bassist Donald "Bopper" Clark (May 14), classical music by clarinetist Donald Grant and pianist Gregory Sulik (May 21), and jazz standards by local singer Susan Chastain and pianist James Dapogny (May 28). 12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

★Thursday Night Rush Hour Relief: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. Every Thurs. Whole Foods staffers discuss wine. Also, tastings and small plates of food. Today's topic: "Sauvignon Blanc Around the World." Also, a talk on "Cooking Catfish" (5:30 p.m., preregistration required). Also this month: "Michigan Wines" (May 14), "Lesser Known White Wines" (May 21), and "South Africa" (May 28). Also, on May 29, an Arcadia Brewing Company (Battle Creek) representative discusses and offers taste samples of the company's beers (4-7 p.m., \$5). 5-7 p.m., Whole Foods Wine Bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. \$17. 997-7507.

★"Evoking the Havemeyer": U-M Museum of Art. U-M western art curator Carole McNamara leads a tour of the UMMA Tiffany Gallery collection of decorative works from the Henry O. Havemeyer house in New York. 5 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★"Exploring Innocence: As Attitude, Perspective, and Expression": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Open Gate Sangha (Campbell, California) co-founder Mukti discusses her new book. Signing. On May 8, Mukti gives a talk (\$15) on "Discover Your True Self." 7-9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. 6:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★"Thursday Evening Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Thurs. Fast/moderate-paced 25-mile ride around northeast Ann Arbor that includes some good chances to improve your climbing skills. Other Thurs. rides: "Spring Unfolding Ride" (10 a.m., meet at Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd., west side of Huron Pkwy., 971-5763, 663-5060), a beginner-friendly slow-paced ride, 10-15 miles, around Ann Arbor neighborhoods to explore local gardens, parks, and cafes. On May 7 only (weather permitting): "Moonshadow Ride" (10 p.m., east end of Mitchell Field parking lot, Fuller Rd.), slow-, moderate-, and fast-paced rides, 8-24 miles (973-9225), along the Gallup Park pathway. 6:45 p.m., meet at the Fuller Pool parking lot, Fuller Rd. Free. 996-9122.

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. Every Thurs. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$5. 761-6691.

Food Tastings: Zingerman's Delicatessen. May 7, 12, 13, 20, 26, & 28. Zingerman's staff and guest food experts discuss and offer taste samples of various gourmet delights. Today: "Milk Chocolate." Also this month: "Tea" (May 12 & 26), "Charcuterie" (May 13), "Soft Cheeses" (May 20), and "Name That Chocolate!" (May 28), a blind tasting of 6 different Zingerman's chocolates. 7 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. \$20 (\$15 on May 12 & 26) in advance, \$25 (\$20 on May 12 & 26) at the door. Space limited; reservations required. 663-3354.

★"Oklahoma Geology, Part 2": Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society. Video screening. Also, club members show their fossil specimens. 7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665-5574.

★"The Business of Game Design": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by Brian Spence, a local dice, card, and board game developer who has developed 60 licensed games, including Patch Products' Buzzword and Buffalo Games' Last Word. 7-8 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

★"What Will We Eat: The Search for Healthy Local Food": Rudolf Steiner High School. Documentary that focuses on the success of the Sweetwater Local Foods Market in Muskegon. Followed by introductions to "Square Foot Gardening" and "How to Build a Hoop House." Also, at 7 p.m. on May 21, *Home Grown Revolution*, a documentary about a Pasadena family that has been transforming its home into an urban homestead for 20 years, followed by discussion. 7 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Tr. Free; donations welcome. 669-9394.

★"Green Chemistry: The Next Big Thing in the New Green Economy": Ecology Center Annual Meeting. Talk by Warner Bancroft Institute for Green Chemistry (Wilmington, MA) founder John Warner, cofounder of the field of green chemistry. Also, Ecology Center program reports, board election results, and the annual environmental awards. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. Free. 761-3186, ext 104.

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dancing to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. 7:30-10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5 (students, free). 971-0990.

★Upper School Orchestra & Choir Concert: Greenhills School. Program TBA. 7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 205-4057.

★Motor City Metro Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Every Thurs. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 8-10 p.m., ICC Education Center (behind Luther House at 1520 Hill). Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Park on Lincoln or Baldwin. 474-1155.

"The Syringa Tree": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. May 7-10. Alex Bisker directs local actors in Pamela Gien's drama based on her experience growing up white and privileged in South Africa. Told from the perspective of a little girl, the story gradually reveals the cruelty of 1960s apartheid. Stars Sarah Combs, Angelica Morton, Tiffany Williams, Mary Kowalski, and Mark Batell. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$18 (seniors, \$15; students with ID, \$10; Thursdays, \$13) in advance at a2ct.org and at the door. 971-2228.

"Betrayal": Michigan Classical Repertory Theatre. May 7-10 & 14-16. Wendy Wright directs local actors in Harold Pinter's dark tale of a wife's tangled, destructive affair with her husband's best friend. Traveling backwards in time, the play touches on pivotal moments in the 9-year tryst and concludes at the party where the two illicit lovers met. The characters exchange lies and deceit in Pinter's trademark minimalist dialogue, which combines ambiguity with brevity to create a thickening atmosphere of tension and menace. Stars Wendy Hiller, Carl Hanna, and Brian Harcourt. 8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$18 (students & seniors, \$15; groups of 6 or more, \$12 each; Thurs., pay what you can) in advance and at mcrt.org, and at the door. 214-6600.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

Laurie Kilmartin: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. May 7-9. A former staff writer for Comedy Central's *Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn*, this seasoned L.A. comic is known for her engaging stage persona and finely crafted jokes. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Fri. & Sat. early shows are non-smoking shows. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

8 FRIDAY

★"Housing & Living Expo": Housing Bureau for Seniors. Senior Living & Housing Awareness Week kicks off today with a day of talks exploring a variety of housing issues for seniors. Also, exhibits by senior housing and care providers. For a complete schedule of workshops and open houses May 8-17 at senior



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Thursday, May 28th, 5:30-7:30 pm
Saturday, May 30th, 9:30-11:30 am

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Hawk, I'm Your Brother

Sunday, May 17
Skyline High School @ 2pm
\$25 Family Pass, \$12 single ticket

The story depicts a Native American boy, Rudy Soto, who longs to fly like a hawk. Rudy kidnaps a baby hawk from its nest, thinking that he and the hawk will learn to fly together, but in the end Rudy learns that he must let the hawk go.

In tandem with the theater performance, the Leslie Science and Nature Center will offer a presentation led by naturalist Francie Krawke featuring a live red-tail hawk, at 1:15 PM & 2:45 PM.



For more information, visit www.aapsef.org or call 734-994-1969.



housing communities around the county, see med.umich.edu/seniors/events or the ad on p. 67. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 998-9336.

"Dollhouse Miniature Show": Three Blind Mice. May 8 & 9. Show and sale of dollhouses and the miniature furniture, books, plants, and accessories used to decorate them. 4-8 p.m. (May 8) & 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (May 9). Holiday Inn, 3600 Plymouth Rd. \$5 (kids ages 5-15, \$2; kids age 4 & under, free; 2-day pass, \$8). (513) 861-0704.

U-M Baseball vs. Minnesota. May 8 & 10 (single game) & May 9 (doubleheader). The May schedule also includes single games against WMU (May 6, 6:30 p.m.) and Ball State (May 12, 6:30 p.m.), 6 p.m. (Fri.) & 1 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Ray Fisher Stadium. \$5 (youths age 12 & under, \$3; U-M students, free). 764-0247.

★Family Night: Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All invited to play board games. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. Free; donations accepted. 945-8602.

"City Meets Country Square Dance": Ann Arbor Active Against ALS/Washtenaw County Farm Bureau. Family-friendly square dancing with caller Luke Schaible. Also, coloring contest for kids and games with prizes for adults. Pizza, ice cream sundae. Proceeds benefit ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) research. 6:30-10:30 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline. \$15 (family, \$30) in advance at a2a3.org and at the door. 944-1469, 645-9892.

Fall Out Boy: EMU Convocation Center. Popular suburban Chicago pop-punk quartet. Opening acts are 4 other pop-punk bands from around the country, All Time Low, Cobra Starship, Metro Station, and Hey Monday. 6:30 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Tickets (price TBA) in advance and at the door. 487-2282.

★"May Moonlight Delight": Main Street Area Association. Sidewalk entertainment TBA. Also, many stores are open until midnight with special sales. 7-9 p.m., downtown Main St. area. Free. 668-7112.

★Spring Concert: Women's Chamber Chorus. David Perampl directs this independent 30-member local women's chorus in a varied program TBA. Piano accompanist is Leslie Austin. Also, a performance by the group's Chamber Maids sextet and Joyous Ringers handbell ensemble. 7:30 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free; donations accepted. 213-7670, 663-5907.

"Cinderella": Skyline High School. May 8-10. Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in Rodgers & Hammerstein's humorous, warm-hearted musical adaptation of the classic fairy tale. Songs include "Impossible," "Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful?" "Ten Minutes Ago," and others. Cast: Emma Griffith, Tasha Major, Ari Axelrod, Frieda Steiner, Angie Goulet, Kennetha Nelson, Richa Saran, Chris White, Sam Rose, Simon Suboski, Brian Farrell, Rose Wall, Christina Hench. 7:30 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets \$8 (students, \$6) in advance at showtix4u.com and at the door. 994-6515.

Peter Mayer: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Earthy, intimate originals by this Minnesota singer-songwriter whose songs are known for their down-home wisdom on a range of topics from Buddha and Jesus to Isaac Newton and Harley-Davidsons. Mayer is also known for his warm, resonant baritone and fluid, rhythmically supple guitar playing. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662-4536, 665-8558.

"Breakin' Curfew": University Musical Society/Neutral Zone. Popular annual variety show featuring local and area teen performers, including Detroit rappers Dradie DaDon and Fowl, the local indie folk duo White Raven, the techno dance ensemble APEX Glowsticks, the Saginaw electronic rock band The Weather State, classical Indian dancer Krithika Rajkumar, the Pioneer High School capella ensembles Soulfège and the Pioneers, the local teen jazz group Animando, local classical guitarist Ben Lougheed, the jazz-rap band Perception, the all-male Indian pop dance group Bhangra Dance Crew, the local comedic folk-rock band Johnny Colorado & the Beaver Brown Band, the Pioneer High School Big Band, local B-boy Julius Theophilus, the avant-jazz band Phasis, local DJ Jelly, and teen poets from the Neutral Zone's VOLUME Poetry Project. 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$16 in advance at the Michigan League box office and ums.org. Students, \$10 in advance at the Neutral Zone & \$12 at the door. Reservations recommended. 764-2538.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

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The Vocal Arts Ensemble A Bolcom world premiere

Under the skillful direction of Ben Cohen, the Vocal Arts Ensemble has grown into a highly respected small choir. Now it's putting on a multimedia extravaganza at Lydia Mendelssohn Theater on Saturday, May 9.

Extravaganza is the word for it. For the show, Ann Arbor's twenty-two-voice Vocal Arts Ensemble will be joined by the River Raisin Ragtime Revue—Tecomseh's twelve-piece ragtime theater orchestra—and People Dancing—Ann Arbor's six-member modern dance company—for the evening's main work: Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Unicorn, The Gorgon, and the Manticore*. Described by the composer as a madrigal fable, the piece presents the ironic parable of a Renaissance town beguiled by style and befuddled by fashion, with the choir telling the story through modernist madrigals, the dancers enacting it through expressive movements, and the orchestra providing sprightly instrumental interludes.

All this looks wonderful on paper, and, based on the evidence, wonders should abound in performance. But for me, the real reason to attend the show is the inclusion of the world premiere performance of William Bolcom's *Lady Liberty*. Actually, it's more of a shared world premiere: the short work for mixed chorus and piano was co-

commissioned by Cohen's Vocal Arts Ensemble and by his brother's Master Singers of Lexington, Kentucky. "We wanted a big splash without taking a financial bath," Cohen explains, and splitting the cost was the way to go. For listeners who've followed the career of a man called Ann Arbor's and America's greatest living composer, the chance to hear another work from the hand that penned *Songs of Innocence and Experience* is not to be missed.

Based on a rehearsal I attended in early April, here's what listeners can expect from *Lady Liberty*: a resolute choral march setting a poem by Bolcom's longtime collaborator Arnold Weinstein, with Mahler's harmonic irony, Gershwin's melodic sentimentality, and Ives's cranky individuality fused into Bolcom's singular postmodernist personality. *Lady Liberty* opens with a low dirge sung over almost jaunty piano accompaniment, flows into a more lyrical central section peaking with a hymn to "Lovely Lady Liberty," then returns to the opening dirge for two impassioned climaxes leading to a long, lingering coda and a final, ecstatic cadence.

Whether that coda lingers too long is up to the listener. In rehearsal, Cohen kept the pace moving in the coda and took care to sculpt the final cadence into something more consoling than corny, holding the final chord not a moment too long. The only way to find out how it'll work out in performance, of course, is to hear it for yourself.

—James Leonard

"Betrayal": Michigan Classical Repertory Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Syringa Tree": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Laurie Kilmartin: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 7 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

2nd Friday Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Philadelphia caller Joanna Reiner calls dances to music by Debbie Jackson, Susie Lorand, and Nora Smith. For experienced dancers. Also, on May 9, 1:30-4:30 p.m., Reiner leads a mix of contra, Scottish, and English dances (\$10) for dancers with experience in at least one of those styles. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$10. (248) 288-4737.

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. May 8-11 (different locations). Four days of tango dance parties. Preceded by tango lessons (\$10 & up). 9:15 p.m.-1 a.m., Michigan Union U-Club. \$20 (students, \$10). 973-2338.

9 SATURDAY

*"Spring Round-Up Horse Show": 4-H. Club members and other area riders demonstrate horsemanship, equitation, pleasure riding, and more. Concessions. The club also sponsors warm-up horse shows May 6 & 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Washtenaw Farm

Council Grounds. 8 a.m.-about 7 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 997-1678.

*"Garlic Mustard Pull": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. May 9 & 23 (different locations). WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a search-and-destroy mission against this aggressive invasive plant. Bring gloves. 9 a.m.-noon, Burns-Stokes Preserve (May 9), Zeeb Rd. at the Huron River just south of Huron River Dr., and Parker Mill County Park (May 23), Geddes Rd. just east of US-23. Free. 971-6337.

*Ecosystem Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. May 9, 16, & 30 (different locations). All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided, or bring your own. 9 a.m.-noon (May 9) & 1-4 p.m. (May 30), meet at the Arb Reader Center, 1610 Washington Hts.; and 9 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m. (May 16), Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Registration requested. 647-8528.

*"5K Run and Walk": Vision Builders. 5-km run and walk, along with a 100-m dash (10 a.m.) for kids age 6 & under and a 1-mile run (10:05 a.m.) for kids ages 7-12. Also, a pancake breakfast, kids carnival, and BollyFit lessons. Awards for top male and female finishers in various age categories. Proceeds go to Vision Builders, a local nonprofit that provides schools,

medical care, clean water, and other basic services to children in the Himalayan region. 9 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$30 (kids under 12, \$20; family, \$50). \$4 vehicle entry fee. \$5 discount if you preregister at visionbuilders5k.org. 926-0976.

*Mushroom Hunt: Michigan Mushroom Hunter's Club. All invited to join club members on a hunt for edible fungi. Bring a bag lunch, compass, whistle, basket, and knife. All mushrooms are evaluated by experts for edibility after the hunt. The club also sponsors numerous other hunts this month in surrounding counties (see sph.umich.edu/~kwceel/mmhc). 9 a.m., Bird Hills Park (meet at the Barton Dam parking lot on Huron River Dr.). Free to visitors; \$15 annual dues. 355-0359.

29th Annual Spring Plant Sale: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. May 9 & 10. Show and sale of over 1,000 plants, including herbs, ferns, vines, corms, roses, grasses, bushes, rushes, creepers, climbers, dainty woodland flowers, festive baskets, rock garden plants, and sun-loving, shade-loving, and medium-light-loving plants. Highlights include a dizzying variety of clematis, irises, hostas, and scented geraniums. Sale of tools, fountains, sundials, trellises, hanging baskets, and more. Plant experts on hand to offer tips and answer questions. Also, free gardening talks, including a May 10 talk on "Perennial Combinations" (\$5, preregistration required) by garden writer and designer Janet Macunovich. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (May 9) & noon-4:30 p.m. (May 10), Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 647-7600.

34th Annual Cat Show: Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers. See review, p. 47. Hundreds of beautiful cats ranging from local house pets to exotic and rare purebreds representing over 25 breeds. The cats compete for awards or regional and national points—the kitten competition is particularly adorable. Also, cat trees, scratching posts, jingle bell collars, cat-related clothing, and more. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., U-M Sports Coliseum, Hill at Fifth Ave. Spectators \$6 (students & seniors, \$4) at the door. 434-8588.

*"Rockin' Reptiles and Fabulous Face Painting": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All kids ages 5-12 invited to get their face painted, meet the Fuller Park Day Camp live turtle and snakes, and learn about the programs at the various city summer day camps. 9 a.m.-noon, Farmers' Market. Free. (517) 243-3224.

*7th Annual Physics Olympiad: U-M Physics Department. Area high school teams battle in this fun, creative competition that involves a variety of physics contests. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Randall, 450 Church, & Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 764-3443.

*Women's Brunch: Grace Bible Church. All women invited to hear Candice Ashburn discuss the renewed hope she feels 2 years after her husband, pediatrician David Ashburn, was killed in a plane crash along with other members of a U-M health system transplant team. Ashburn gives a similar talk at Grace Bible Church May 10, 11 a.m. Time TBA, Grace Bible Church, 1300 S. Maple. Free. 663-0589.

"The Importance of B's": Kerrytown Concert House Magic Carpet Concert Series. An ensemble of local performers—including pianist Dmitri Vorobiev, guitarist Matthew Ardizzone, cellist Andrea Yun, violinist Alicia Doudna, and soprano Jennifer Goltz—present a kid-friendly concert of classical works by composers whose names begin with the letter B, including Bach, Beethoven, Barrios, and others. Emcee is actor Gulshirin Dubash. Bring your own "magic carpet" to sit on if you wish. Noon, KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10 per family. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

*U-M Men's Rugby vs. Grand Rapids Gazelles. 1 p.m., Riverside Park (off Wall St.). Free. 417-4534.

*"Game On with the Vault": Ann Arbor District Library. All 6th-graders through adults invited to learn to play some popular European-style family games with Vault of Midnight game experts. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

*Youth Orchestra Concert: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. The AASPA Junior String Orchestra, Sterling String Orchestra, and Youth Symphony Orchestra perform works by Bernstein, Schubert, and others. 3 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 213-2000.

*"Henna Art": Ann Arbor District Library. Local henna artist Hiral Shah discusses the history, traditions, and current practices of henna body art. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

*"Spring Sing": Ann Arbor Youth Choral. The 2 choirs of this ensemble of talented local youth singers present a program highlighted by selections from the musicals *Oliver!* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, as well as folk songs, Broadway tunes, and works by Handel, Delibes, and others. 4 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 (kids, students, & seniors; \$5). 996-4404.

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• Vardar Soccer Camp July 6-9th from 9-11am at WISD - Washtenaw Intermediate School District (1819 S. Wagner Rd Ann Arbor 48106) Cost \$100.00 per-player, 1/2 the Proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society

• For further info on the Vardar Soccer Club please go to our website: www.vardarmichigan.com/index_mi.htm

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Taylor Mason: Concordia University Arts. This family-friendly New Jersey comedian has appeared on NBC's *Last Comic Standing*, and his routine usually includes piano music and ventriloquism. His various puppet characters range from Romeo and Juliet to a shy life-size wrestler named Sumo. 7 p.m., Concordia University gym, 4090 Geddes Rd. at Earhart. Tickets \$20 & \$35 (\$60 VIP ticket includes priority seating and a preshow reception with Mason) in advance and at the door. 995-4612.

"Cinderella": Skyline High School. See 8 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Lager for Lag B'Omer": Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society Fund-Raiser. Stone Brewing (Escondido, CA) regional representative Aaron Tyrell hosts a tasting of Stone Brewing beers of various styles. With food and sauces. 8-10 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Tickets \$30 (\$50 for 2) in advance at jewishculturalsociety.org and at the door. 975-9872.

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. All singles and couples invited. Refreshments. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$5. 822-2120.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls contra to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Beginners welcome. 8 p.m., Webster Community Hall, 5665 Webster Church Rd. between Joy and North Territorial, Dexter. \$8. 996-8359.

"Our Mothers, Ourselves": Kerrytown Concert House. A touching, funny, free-wheeling variety show of old-fashioned parlor songs, musical theater, and more, by the noted local all-female singing group Wine, Women & Song. Accompanied by pianist Jerry DePuit. Wine is served. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15, \$20, & \$30. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Waleed Howrani. May 9 & 10. This internationally acclaimed local pianist performs a varied program that includes Haydn's Sonata no. 8 in A-flat, Beethoven's *Pathétique Sonata*, the local premiere of Armenian-Lebanese composer Boghos Gelalian's Sonata for Piano, Howrani's work-in-progress *Suite Geriatrics*, Sousa's "Stars & Stripes Forever," and ragtime pieces by Scott Joplin, James P. Johnson, the late U-M music professor William Albright, and retiring U-M music professor William Bolcom. "[Howrani's] technical command, close attention to minute details, and lucid interpretive powers are buoyed by a poetic sensitivity that is at once refined and free-spirited," says the *Washington Post*. Reception follows. 8 p.m., Northside Community Church, 929 Barton. \$15 at the door only. 663-3221.

"The Unicorn, the Gorgon, and the Manticore": Vocal Arts Ensemble. Benjamin Cohen directs this 30-member local chamber choir in Gian Carlo Menotti's madrigal that tells the story of a poet and his mythical animal companions. With dance accompaniment by the accomplished local modern dance troupe *People Dancing*, with guest dancers from *Dance Body*, the all-city high school dance company. Other performers include the Tecumseh-based *River Raisin Ragtime Revue* and *Greenhills School Singers*. The program also includes the premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winning local composer William Bolcom's choral piece *Lady Liberty* (see review, p. 59). 8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, 911 North University. \$20 (seniors age 66 & older and students, \$10). 665-7823, 741-7451.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Betrayal": Michigan Classical Repertory Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Syringa Tree": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Laurie Kilmartin: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 7 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 8 Friday. Tonight's dance is followed, 1:30-6 a.m., by an all-night tango party at U-M Work Gallery (306 S. State). 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$20 (students, \$10). 973-2338.

Benefit Dance Party: Permanent Green Light. Dancing to music spun by Chuck Sipperley and a DJ TBA. Proceeds benefit a local charity TBA. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., James L. Crawford Elks Lodge, 220 W. Sunset. \$3. 272-9513.

10 SUNDAY (Mother's Day)

Horse Show: Spur of the Moment Club. A judged amateur riding event for kids and adults, including English, western, and halter riding styles. Also, gym-

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khana (equestrian games) like barrel racing in the afternoon. Concessions. 8 a.m.-about 7 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free admission. 429-7615.

★"Spring Fling Regatta": U-M Sailing Club. All invited to watch club members and others (it's free) race each other in JY15 sailboats. 10 a.m., Baseline Lake, 8010 Strawberry Lake Rd., left from Mast off North Territorial. Free. 426-0920.

★"Art and Physics: Parallel Visions in Space, Time, and Light": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Club member Art Radcliffe discusses Leonard Shlain's acclaimed book. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971-8638.

★"Chessastic!": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. 1-4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.

★"Historical Mystery Mother's Day: Jane Austen, WW II, and Victorian England": Aunt Agatha's. Three historical mystery writers—Carrie Bebris, Kathryn Miller Haines, and Tasha Alexander—discuss their new books. Tea & cookies. Signing. 2 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

★Shape Note Singing: The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. 2-5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678-7549, 761-1451.

"Mother's Day Concert": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen, Scott Boerma, and Jerry Bilik direct this local volunteer ensemble in their own compositions, including Nissen's "A2CB Fanfare," Boerma's *Fjords*, and Bilik's *Civil War Fantasy*, *American Variations*, and *The Band Played On*, and *The Victor's Variations*. The program also includes EMU music professor Anthony Iannaccone's *After a Gentle Rain*, Henry Fillmore's *His Honor*, and a work TBA featuring the winner of the band's recent young artist competition scholarship. 2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$5; kids age 12 & under, free) at the door only. 434-7876.

"Betrayal": Michigan Classical Repertory Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Syringa Tree": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Cinderella": Skyline High School. See 8 Friday. 2:30 p.m.

★"Gustav Klimt and Egon Schiele: From Art Nouveau to Expressionism": U-M Museum of Art. Talk by Galerie St. Etienne (New York) codirector Jane Kallir, author of the Egon Schiele catalogue raisonné. 3 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★"500 Years of American Grapes and Wine: A Remarkable Journey": U-M Clements Library/Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. See review, p. 55. Local culinary historian Daniel Longone discusses the current exhibit at the Clements Library. 3-5 p.m., Clements Library, 909 South University. Free. 764-2347.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 3 Sunday. Today: "Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs." 3:30 p.m.

Community Drum Circle: Arts in Motion Dance Studio. All-invited to join a group drumming session led by certified drum circle facilitator Don Allen. Bring your own drum, or use one of Arts in Motion's. 4-5:30 p.m., Arts in Motion, 2841 Boardwalk. \$5 per person. Reservations requested. 222-6246.

★"Collage Concert": St. Thomas the Apostle Church. St. Thomas choirs and other musicians perform works by Bach, Mozart, Dvorak, and others. 4 p.m., St. Thomas, State at Kingsley. Free. 761-8606.

Violin Recital: Gloria Kitto Lewis & Friends. Retired WSU English professor Lewis, a Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra violinist, is joined by members of the local chamber ensemble Ann Arbor Camera-ta—pianist and harpsichordist Ling-Ju Lai, cellist Nicholas Finch, and violinist Mark Schuppener—to perform music from the Baroque to Romantic eras. Program: Locatelli's Trio in G Major for Two Violins and Harpsichord, Brahms' Sonata no. 2 in A Major for Violin and Piano, Mozart's Adagio in E Major for Violin and Orchestra, and Haydn's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in G Major. 4 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr., off Broadway, North Campus. Free. 995-1953.

Waleed Howrani. See 9 Saturday. 4:30 p.m.

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 8 Friday. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$20 (students, \$10). 973-2338.

11 MONDAY

★"Volleyball in the Park": Ann Arbor Ski Club. Every Mon. May 11-Sept. 28. All adults age 21 & older invited to join a volleyball game. All skill levels welcome. 7 p.m.-dark, Burns Park (just east of the picnic pavilion), corner of Wells & Baldwin. Free. 973-2136.

"Madeira Party": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young and Rare Wine Company wine expert Mannie Berk host a dinner featuring dishes selected to accompany this velvety, flavorful wine. 7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. \$45. Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.

★Socrates Cafe: Nicola's Books. May 11 & 25. All invited to join a philosophical discussion that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★"Navajo Weaving: Two Grey Hills Area Style": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. Fiber artist Charlotte Anderson discusses her time living on the Two Grey Hills Navajo reservation in New Mexico. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. 7 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665-0703.

★"The Biggest Naval Battle of the War: In the Houses of Parliament": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Talk by Rochester Hills CWRT member Bill Grandstaff. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 930-0617.

★"Secrets of the Farmers Market": Ann Arbor District Library/Slow Foods Huron Valley. Panel discussion with Carson's American Bistro chef Janea Makowski, Food Gatherers CEO Eileen Spring, and Growing Hope executive director Amanda Edmonds. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative": National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County. (See "Mary King's Mission," p. 31.) Talk by NAMI public education coordinator Megan McKinley. 7:30-9:30 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. 994-6611.

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 8 Friday. 9 p.m.-midnight, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$20 (students, \$10). 973-2338.

12 TUESDAY

★"Growing Vegetables": Good Thyme Garden Club. Talk by Manchester gardener "Farmer John" Hochstetler. 10 a.m., Saline District Library, 555 N. Maple, Saline. Free. 663-8577.

★Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department. All age 21 & over invited to discuss *Zot! The Complete Black and White Collection: 1987-1991*, Scott McCloud's comic book series about a teenager from a parallel universe. 7-9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764-2553.

★"The Lizards Are Crawling Back Through Your Window": The Neutral Zone. Local teens read from their brand new collection of 34 stories and poems featuring everything from apocalyptic cannibals and homesick CIA agents to treasure thieves and unpredictable fish. Entertainment TBA. Refreshments. 7-9 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214-9995.

★"Getting Your Children's Book Published": Ann Arbor District Library/Ann Arbor Book Festival. Talk by award-winning local children's book writer Shutta Crum. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★Sierra Club Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss *Boundary Waters: The Grace of the Wild*, Paul Gruchow's 1999 collection of 4 personal essays about his experience hiking, canoeing, and camping along the Minnesota-Ontario border. 7:15 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-1157.

★"The Great Lakes": Ann Arbor Area League of Women Voters. Slide-illustrated talk by Jeannette Neagu, a renowned Great Lakes environmentalist from Indiana. 8 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 769-3095.

13 WEDNESDAY

"May Flowers": Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights Series. All seniors invited to a recital by a chamber ensemble led by Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra horn player Andrew Pelletier. Program TBA. 1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$8. 971-0990.

★"Yummy Breakfast Smoothie": Whole Foods Washtenaw Kids Club. A Whole Foods staffer gives several 20-minute smoothie demonstrations for kids ages 3-12 accompanied by a parent. Samples. 3-4:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 975-4500.



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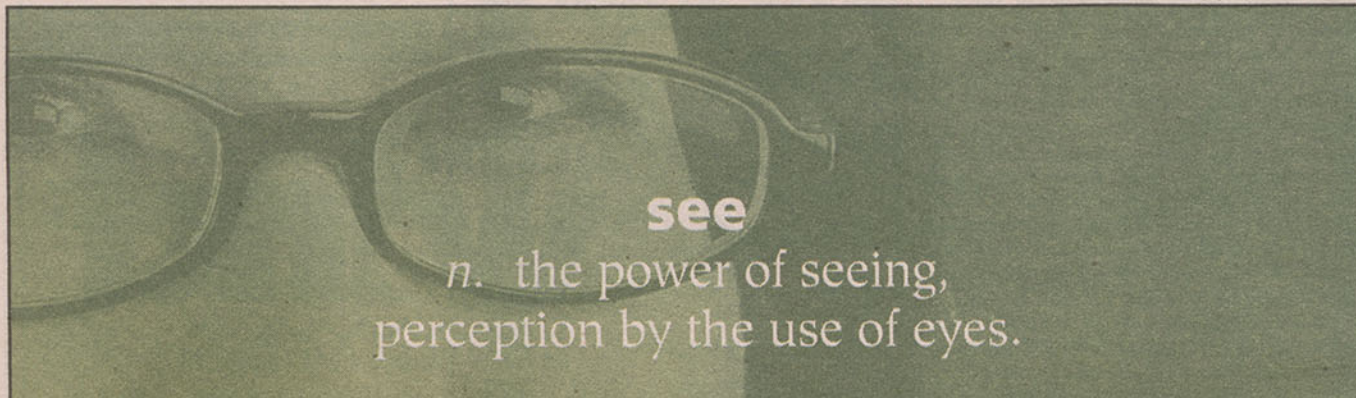


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★**Gaming Tournaments:** Ann Arbor District Library. May 13 & 15-17. Today: "All Ages Open Play." All invited to bring their Nintendo DS to play favorite video games. Also: "Rock Band Star Jams" (May 15). All invited to get a band together or join one on the spot. Prizes to top 3 bands. "Super Smash Brothers" (May 16). Kids in grade 6 to adults to compete in a Smash Brothers Melee for GameCube tournament. "Wii Sports Tournament." All invited to bring a partner to play Wii bowling, tennis, and boxing. Prizes to top 3 teams and to team with the greatest age difference. 3-6 p.m. (May 13), 6-8:30 p.m. (May 15), & 1-4 p.m. (May 16 & 17), AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★**"Invasive Plants: The Big Bullies of Nature":** U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. May 13 & 16. All kids ages 7-12 invited to help remove invasive plants. 6-8 p.m. (May 13) & 10 a.m.-noon (May 16), Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 647-7600.

★**Fiction Readers Groups:** Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of Michael Chabon's gripping alternate-history whodunit *The Yiddish Policemen's Union*. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**"Ham Radio at the Hands-On Museum":** ARROW Communications Association. Club members give a family-friendly radio demo at the museum's radio station. Also, screening of a video of International Space Station radio communication. 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. Free. 830-6564.

★**History Readers Group:** Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. Local physician Bernard Sivak leads a discussion of Alfred Crosby's *America's Forgotten Pandemic: The Influenza of 1918*. 7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369-2499.

★**"Bleeding Red":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

14 THURSDAY

★**25th Annual Ann Arbor Springtime Invitational Figure Skating Championship:** Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. May 14-17. More than 800 skaters ages 6 to adult from as far away as Colorado and Minnesota compete in solo, pairs, couples, and ice dancing categories in this USFSA-sanctioned competition. Finals are spread out over all 4 days, mostly toward the end of each day's competitions, with the bulk of finals on Sunday. Note: Times are tentative. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. (May 15), 8 a.m.-8 p.m. (May 16 & 17), & 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (May 18), Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 662-3925.

★**"Plant Exchange":** International Neighbors. All women invited to bring plants to swap. Master gardener Carol Broderick is on hand to share gardening tips and answer questions. International Neighbors is a 50-year-old group of local women organized to welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. 1-2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 663-3989.

★**"Flower Arranging":** Ikebana International Chapter 183. Japanese ikebana expert Miki Shimomura leads a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arrangement, using anthuriums. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. 1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). \$10 (members, \$5) materials fee. (248) 685-7696.

★**"Seek Peace and Pursue It: A Forum on Religion, War, and Peacemaking":** Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. Presentations by Muslim, Jewish, and Christian leaders. Followed by discussion. The program is preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass). 6 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 2309 Packard. Free. 663-1870.

★**"Bocks & Trappists":** Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about more than 2 dozen bock, doppelbock, and Belgian Trappist ales. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. Note: Arbor Brewing also hosts a benefit beer tasting and silent auction (\$35 for adults & \$15 for those under 21 in advance only at 995-9926) for the Coalition for Adoption Rights Equality on May 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m. 7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213-1393.

★**"Tea Tasting":** Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All invited to sample premium teas from China and Taiwan. 7-8 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. \$5. 945-8602.

★**"The Spirit of Tea":** Ann Arbor District Library/Ann Arbor Book Festival. American Tea Masters Association tea expert Frank Hadley Murphy discusses his book about the history and characteristics of 6 classical tea categories, with samples provided

metabluegrass

The Abrams Brothers

Remaking tradition

Brothers John and James Abrams, joined by their cousin Elijah, come from Kingston, Ontario. All rather adorable teenagers, they started out very young playing bluegrass music, following three previous generations of musicians in the family. Their mastery of the Stanley Brothers and the like was impressive, but it was the kind of child-prodigy stuff that left you wondering if they could go deeper. It turns out they can. Their new album, *Blue on Brown*, with electric instruments, is billed as a tribute to the music of Bob Dylan and Arlo Guthrie; and it's something quite well thought out and unexpected.

When they decided to do the album, says John, "that really opened up the passageways for us to bring bluegrass into some other forms of music." The sentence is slippery in the fertile way that indicates new thinking is going on: does it mean that bluegrass is being carried forward, or that bluegrass is being incorporated into newer genres? The Abrams brothers are neither simply "covering" Dylan and Guthrie nor flavoring rock with bluegrass instruments in the way that Americana bands and folk-rock bands have done. Nor are they "updating" these classic songs for a new generation, although nobody has really done them this way before.

Instead, they are claiming Dylan and Guthrie as traditional music in the best sense: as music that each generation must re-create anew. More rigorously than Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams and the other bands that have drawn on the 1960s well lately, they avoid nostalgia. They sing not like Dylan, not like rockers, but like themselves. They perform "City of New Orleans," "Shelter from the Storm," and Dylan's gospel-inflected "You Gotta Serve Somebody" (gospel has been part of the Abrams family background) with a flexible ensemble including fiddle, mandolin, and



banjo, but also at various times pedal steel guitar, electric guitar, other stringed instruments, percussion, and touches of vintage keyboards like the Clavinet. The ensemble allows a range of references to the roots forms that underlay the music of Dylan and Guthrie themselves but that isn't precisely like any that existed in the 1960s and 1970s. With the brother harmonies and duo instrumental work of John and James as a closely synchronized core, the music branches off in flexible, organic ways.

You wouldn't think it was possible to do a fresh version of "Mr. Tambourine Man" at this point, but try it out at the Abrams Brothers show at the Ark on Tuesday, May 19, and you'll be surprised. The smoking, toking crowds that went to hear Dylan and Arlo in the 1960s may not have thought they were hearing songs that would be taken as cultural touchstones by fresh-faced young Canadians forty years later, but that's exactly how it's worked out.

—James M. Manheim

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★**"The Motorcar Remakes America":** Ann Arbor City Club. Talk by retired local attorney and antique car buff Sinclair Powell. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations required. 662-3279.

★**Rosemary Harris and Jane Cleland: Aunt Agatha's.** These 2 New York writers discuss their new cozy mysteries. Harris's *The Big Dirt Nap* is her 2nd featuring Connecticut master gardener Paula Holliday, and Cleland's *Killer Keepsakes* is her 4th featuring New Hampshire antiques dealer Josie Prescott. Signing. 7 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group:** Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion of *Flash Press: Sporting Male Weeklies in 1840s New York*, a 2008 collection of essays about the 19th-century magazines that featured sports news, gossip, humor, and porn. Refreshments. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★**"Spring Orchestra Concert":** Pioneer High School. All 3 Pioneer High orchestras perform works TBA. 7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Free. 994-2189.

★**"An Evening of Music by Ignatz Waghalter":** Kerrytown Concert House. Local soprano Jennifer Goltz performs works by this 20th-century German composer who was known for his intense melodies. Accompanists are pianist Stijn De Cock and guitarist Matthew Ardizzone. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**"Betrayal":** Michigan Classical Repertory Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Fences":** Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Bleeding Red":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Comedy Jamm":** Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

15 FRIDAY

★**Gallup Park Bird Walk:** Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. City ornithologist Dea Armstrong leads an evening walk to look for birds in Gallup Park and the Furstenberg Nature Area. Bring binoculars if you have them. 6-8 p.m., meet at the paddleboat dock near the Gallup Park canoe livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 996-3266.

★**"Walead Beshty: Pulleys, Cogwheels, Mirrors, and Windows":** U-M Museum of Art. Contemporary L.A.-based abstract installation artist Beshty discusses the museum's current exhibit of his work. 6 p.m., U-M Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**"Skateboard Art Show":** Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee Fundraiser. Show and judging of 50 skate decks painted by various artists. Followed by a silent auction of the winning decks and a sale of the other decks. Food and music spun by DJs Mogi Grumbles, Charles Trees, and DJ Ormate. 7-10 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main. Free admission. 998-1413.

★**"Pendragon Book 10: The Soldiers of Halla":** Waters Place Borders. Best-selling young adult fiction writer D. J. McHale reads from the latest novel in his fantasy series about a teenage boy who can travel through space and time. Signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997-8884.

★**2009 Ann Arbor Book Festival.** May 15-17 (different programs & locations). This year's festival kicks off with "The Art of the Play: from Page to Stage," a panel discussion with several local theater experts,

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

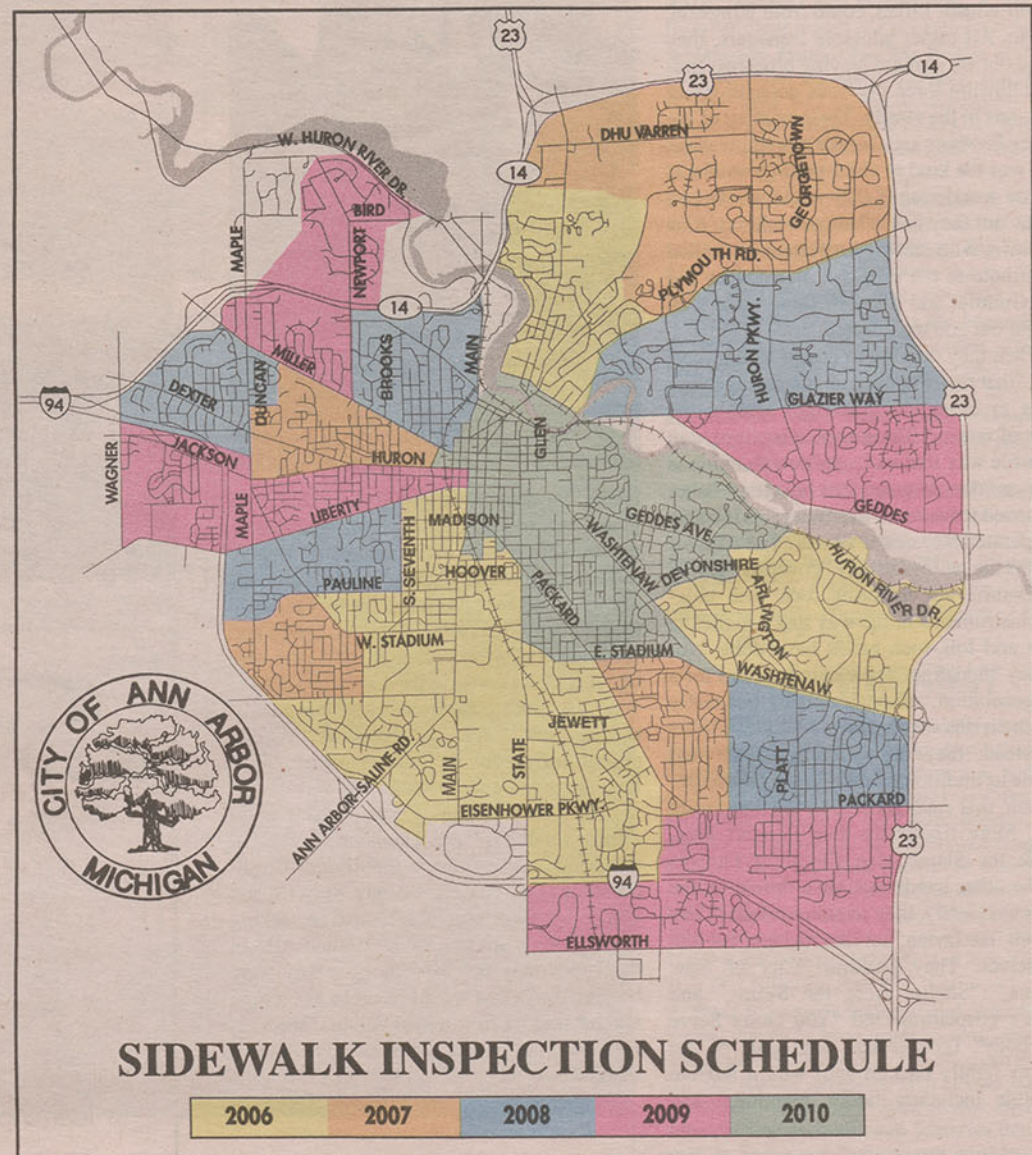
- Q:** Whose responsibility is it to maintain and repair the public sidewalks and walkways?
- A:** Per City Code, Chapter 49, Section 4:58, all sidewalks within the City shall be kept and maintained in good repair by the owner of the adjacent land.
- Q:** How do I report a sidewalk that needs repair? How can I check if my sidewalk needs repair?
- A:** You simply talk with the City's Sidewalk Repair Office at (734) 994-2493. This call will trigger a request to the Technical Services Unit for a sidewalk inspection. If repairs are needed, the City will notify the property owner by letter of the specific requirements to bring the sidewalk into compliance.
- Q:** What if the sidewalk damage appears to be caused by tree roots?
- A:** Please call (734) 994-2493 to initiate an inspection by a staff person from forestry and/or the Technical Services Unit to see if a problematic root can be removed without endangering the stability and health of the tree. The property owner is still responsible for the sidewalk repair costs.
- Q:** Why doesn't the City make the repairs and bill the owners?
- A:** When contractor's perform work for the City there is additional costs for the contractor for Bonding, Insurance and the requirement to pay prevailing wages. Based on our Customer Service Survey we found the average cost for a 4" slab for homeowner's in 2008 was \$130. The City cost for a 4" slab in 2008 was at least \$170
- Q:** If I don't make the repairs what will the City charge me?
- A:** The City will make the repairs and pass on all associated costs. In 2008, that would have been a minimum of \$170 per slab plus project costs, which were \$225 per address.
- Q:** Why doesn't the City find the contractor for the owner?
- A:** Based on our Customer Service Survey we have implemented a Contractor Pre-Qualification process. The contractors on the list will be instructed by the City on the procedures of sidewalk repair within the City of Ann Arbor. Contractors will also be rated on their performance by the City and the Customer Service Survey. The ratings will allow us to remove or add contractors based on City and owner experiences.

SIDEWALK REPAIR & REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES:

1. Property owners or contractors may obtain the specifications and standards for sidewalk repair from the City's **Community Services Area, located at 2000 S. Industrial (Old Utilities Field Office).**
2. If you plan to do the repair yourself, contact the Community Services Area to obtain a right-of-way permit to work within the public right of way 48 hours prior to the work; you must submit certified proof of insurance in the amount of \$100,000.
3. If you plan to have a contractor do the work, have them obtain a right-of-way permit from the Community Services Area 48 hours prior to starting work. In order to be granted the permit, the contractor must submit a certified proof of public liability insurance in the amount of \$500,000.

Property owners may verify that a contractor has a permit by calling the Community Services Area at (734) 994-2674 at least one day before work begins. Hint: Multiple property owners working together may receive lower prices from a contractor.

CITY OF ANN ARBOR SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM



The City of Ann Arbor has implemented an annual sidewalk repair program to improve the walk-ability of the sidewalks throughout the City. The program will inspect all sidewalks in accordance with the schedule shown on the map. The annual program does not eliminate the citizen request procedure. If you would like to make an inspection request, you may call (734) 994-2493 or send an e-mail to: Sidewalkrepair@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

THREE REASONS TO REPAIR YOUR PUBLIC SIDEWALK:

1. Children, the elderly, and the physically challenged use our sidewalks daily. Poorly maintained sidewalks carry high risks for injury. Your help is appreciated to make sure all residents may travel safely along our sidewalks.
2. City Code (chapters 47 and 49) requires property owners to properly maintain the sidewalks and public walkways adjacent to or abutting their property for use by the public.
3. Properly maintained sidewalks decrease your liability and enhance the overall aesthetic image of our City.

More information is available on the City's website at: www.a2gov.org/sidewalk

jazz

Sheila Jordan

Million-dollar ears

In August 1962 jazz composer-pianist George Russell recorded a forward-looking album, *The Outer View*, that included a twelve-minute version of "You Are My Sunshine," a song first recorded in 1939 by the Pine Ridge Boys and hardly a jazz standard. Halfway through the piece, after a number of instrumental solos, everyone lays out, and the air is filled with a lone female voice, singing the lyrics with clarity but without much vibrato, with feeling but without exaggerated pathos. Listening to it once again after all these years, I'm still amazed by the originality and beauty of this unexpected entry. The voice belongs to Sheila Jordan, and this idiosyncratic debut is emblematic of her artistic life.

Jordan grew up in the coalfields of Pennsylvania, where she sang that song as a child, but early on she moved to Detroit, where her musical taste was forever altered when she heard Charlie Parker and the local youngsters who were learning his kind of music, which they called bebop. Sheila fell in love with this music and was soon putting lyrics to bebop solos, eventually joining with two friends, Skeeter Spight and Leroy Mitchell, to form the trio Skeeter, Mitch, and Jean. They sang Charlie Parker's saxophone solos note for note, and did it so well that when she finally met her idol, he told her she was "the chick with the million-dollar ears."

Eventually she moved to New York, where she married, had a daughter, divorced, and worked for decades as a paralegal while she raised her child on her own. Although her roots lay in bebop, she associated mainly with the more adventurous musicians of the time, who were reinventing jazz in the lofts



of the Big Apple. In the late seventies she became a member of pianist Steve Kuhn's quartet; this was highly unusual in that she was not a "featured" singer but an integrated member of a group in which the voice was just another instrument. She also began performing and recording in duo with just a bass player, an unusual combination that she still uses, most recently with bassists Cameron Brown and Jay Clayton. Not surprisingly, her uncompromising and original reworking of the role of a female singer in jazz was appreciated more abroad than at home, and she began to travel internationally, singing, recording, and teaching in various countries.

Jordan belongs to a small club of singers who really do sing jazz, as opposed to pop songs with jazz arrangements. Her models and mentors have been instrumentalists, and she phrases as if she were playing a saxophone or a trumpet with lyrics, relying more on her ear than on the sound of her voice. But she does not abandon the meaning of the words, and when she sings standards, blues, or jazz tunes, she likes to tell a story. Sometimes she makes up lyrics as she improvises, and her sets usually end with an autobiographical bebop blues. She'll be at the Firefly Club on May 23.

—Piotr Michalowski

staged readings of 2 one-act plays TBA, and a performance, starring U-M voice professor George Shirley, of *A Chance Meeting*, Sandra Seaton's drama based on Cyrus Colter's 1960 short story about an ex-servant who learns that his former employer—a woman he'd idealized—had cheated on her husband. Emcee is retiring U-M professor William Bolcom. The program is preceded at the downtown library, 6-7:30 p.m., by an **author reception** featuring refreshments and a chance to meet several writers attending the festival. The festival also includes a street fair and an author home tour on May 16, and an antiquarian book fair on May 17 (see listings). Also, in conjunction with the festival, a **Literacy Symposium** (\$22 by reservation at 369-3366) at the Washtenaw Intermediate School District on May 7, 4:30-8 p.m., and a **Writers Conference** (\$105 in advance only at aabookfestival.org) on the U-M campus May 15, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and May 16, 10 a.m.-noon. **Note:** A complete, updated schedule of events is available at aabookfestival.org. 7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$15 in advance at aabookfestival.org and (if available) at the door. 369-3366.

Red Barn Family English Dance: Christ the King Church. Ray Bantle and Drake Meadow lead family-friendly dances for age 7 & over with music by Childgrove. Also, activities for toddlers. All dances taught. No partner or experience necessary. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). 7-9:30 p.m., *Domino's Farms red barn, Via Sacra Dr. (off Ave Maria Dr. from Earhart Rd. north of Plymouth Rd.)*. \$7 (families, \$14; students, \$4). 665-7704.

"The Merchant of Venice": St. Augustine's Home-school Enrichment Program. May 15 & 16. Henry Russell directs a cast of area homeschooled teens in Shakespeare's tragicomedy about passion and revenge. The vexing character of Shylock, who is both a villain—demanding a literal pound of flesh from the merchant who owes him money—and a victim of an-

ti-Semitism, has provoked controversy for centuries. The play contains many of Shakespeare's most famous speeches, including "Hath not a Jew eyes?" and "The quality of mercy is not strained." 7 p.m., *Whitmore Lake High School, 8877 Whitmore Lake Rd.* \$5 (family, \$15) in advance and at the door. 239-3476.

"Dandelion Wine": Young Actors Guild. May 15-17. Sue Roe directs young local actors in Ray Bradbury's stage adaptation of his tender, magical autobiographical short story, a love letter to a golden 1928 summer in the life of a 12-year-old boy. 7:30 p.m., *Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, 911 North University*. \$15 (students through high school, \$10). 913-9800.

Student Productions: Pioneer High School Theater Guild. May 15-17. Pioneer High School students perform several of their original short plays. 7:30 p.m., *Pioneer High School Little Theater, 601 W. Stadium at Main*. \$6. 994-2120.

"Hometown Hootenanny": Avalon Housing. Dancing to The Saucecats, a Frankenmuth septet that plays zydeco, Cajun dance music, blues, and funk, along with some Latin and Caribbean tunes. Also, auction of donated items from local businesses. A benefit for Avalon Housing, a local nonprofit agency that currently owns and manages more than 170 units of affordable housing for low-income individuals and families at 15 sites. 8-11 p.m., *Downtown Home & Garden, 210 S. Ashley*. \$15 minimum donation in advance and at the door. 663-5858.

"Betrayal": Michigan Classical Repertory Theatre. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

Tony Deyo: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. May 15 & 16. Ann Arbor debut of this young comic, a former middle school teacher and symphony musician known for his crisp observational humor and likable

stage presence. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the early shows are nonsmoking. 8 & 10:30 p.m., *old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty*. \$8 reserved seating in advance, \$10 general admission at the door. 996-9080.

16 SATURDAY

★**"Crane Creek State Park": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** WAS member Karen Markey leads a field trip to this Ohio state park 70 miles from Ann Arbor on the southern shore of Lake Erie, to look for migrating songbirds. Bring a lunch and something to drink; insect repellent recommended. Late afternoon return. 6 a.m., *meet at Busch's, 2020 Plymouth Rd. at Green Rd., to carpool*. Free. 994-3569.

Ann Arbor Antiques Market. May 16 & 17. One of the nation's largest monthly antiques shows, and some say the best. No reproductions are allowed, experts check every booth, and the items' authenticity is guaranteed. Deliveries available. Concessions. No pets. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., *Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline*. \$6 (children age 12 & under accompanied by an adult, free). (937) 875-0808 (before the show), 429-3145 (day of show).

★**"9th Annual Heart and Sole Race": Chelsea Community Hospital.** 5- and 10-km runs, a 2-mile run/walk, and 2-mile and 5-km walks to benefit the hospital. 3-deep awards per 10-year age group for the 5 km and 10 km, and awards for top 10 2-mile runners and walkers. 8:30 a.m., *Chelsea Community Hospital, 775 S. Main, Chelsea*. \$20 (kids age 12 & younger, \$12; families, \$45) in advance; \$25 (kids age 12 & younger, \$15; families, \$50) on race day. 475-4157.

★**"Women's Fly Fishing Day": Trout Unlimited.** All women invited to try their hands at fly fishing, with instructors available for guidance. Beginners welcome. Bring equipment if you have it and polarized sunglasses. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., *Gallup Park, 3000 Fuller Rd.* Free. Preregistration required by emailing aaatu@mikemouradian.com. 417-5121.

★**"Spring Gala": North American Rock Garden Society.** May 16 & 17 (different locations). Two days of self-guided garden and nursery tours in southeast Michigan, and other garden-related activities. Today's highlights include **garden tours** (9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.) at 890 Wickfield Ct., 3437 Charing Cross, 215 E. Henry St. in Saline, and other locations in Washtenaw County; and a free dinner (6:30 p.m.) followed by a talk on **"A World of Saxifrages"** (7:30 p.m.) by well-known Scottish rock gardener Malcolm McGregor at U-M Pierpont Commons and a **rare plant auction**. Door prizes. May 17: garden and nursery tours outside Washtenaw County, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m., various locations. Free. Preregistration required for dinner by emailing reznicek@umich.edu or calling 996-0692.

Sue Beavers: Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by this nationally known quilt and fabric designer. 9 a.m., *WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr.* \$10 (members, free). Wheelchair-accessible. 953-9650.

★**"Jackson Road Cruise": Scio Township Economic Development Corporation.** Display of classic and custom cars at several sites along Jackson Road. Also, hybrid and electric cars, motorcycles, bicycles, tractors, and trucks. Entertainment and other activities at each site. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., *Jackson Rd. between Weber's Inn and Lowe's*. Free. 665-2123.

★**"Walk & Wag": Huron Valley Humane Society Benefit.** About 300 local dogs usually attend this fund-raising walk and dog activity and game fest. In addition to a leisurely stroll through scenic park trails, participants of both species can watch the Manchester Frisbee-catching dog troupe **Flying Aces**. Emcee is 107.1FM DJ Martin Bandyke. For dogs, there's a **bone 'n' biscuit treasure hunt**, a best dog trick contest with prizes, and the popular and truly hilarious **bobbing for wieners** (bring a camera). For people, there's a raffle (\$1,000 first prize), a **pet look-alike** contest, face painting, and kids' crafts. Busch's hot dogs & snacks available. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., *County Farm Park*. Pledges or donation. 662-5585.

2009 Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Festival: Jugglers of Ann Arbor. Jugglers of all ability levels invited to join jugglers from around Michigan and beyond for a day of freestyle juggling and workshops. Events include games, open juggling, a sale of juggling items, and more. **Note:** Attendees 17 and under need a parent-signed waiver. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., *indoors at Wide World Sports Center, 2140 Oak Valley Dr.* \$1. (248) 990-8084.

★**"Picnic Pops": Pioneer High School.** An all-day musical bonanza of performances by local middle and high school bands and orchestras that an organizer calls "Ann Arbor's biggest block party." Games, an obstacle course, and prizes. Brats and other picnic treats available. Rain or shine (it's under a big tent). 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., *PHS, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main*. Free admission. 975-8626.

★**2009 Ann Arbor Book Festival.** See 15 Friday. Today: An all-day street fair on Ingalls Mall and an indoor fair in the Michigan League Michigan Room,

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SENIOR LIVING & HOUSING AWARENESS WEEK

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with thousands of books for sale at booths sponsored by local booksellers, publishers, and literacy organizations. Readings, signings, demos, and performances, and other book-related activities at various locations on the U-M campus. Also, the "Author Home Tour" (1:30 & 3:30 p.m., bus leaves from the Michigan League, \$15. Preregistration recommended.), a bus tour of former residences in the area of various notable writers, including W.H. Auden, Robert Frost, Arthur Miller, Harriet Simpson Arnow, and others.

The Michigan League Vandenberg Room stage kicks off with "Books Change Lives" (11 a.m.), a panel discussion moderated by EMU English professor Heather Neff, with *Lost Years of Merlin* author T.A. Barron, U-M Clements Library curator Jan Longone, West Side Book Shop owner Jay Platt, local historian Steve Thorp, and Detroit Channel 4 reporter Paula Tutman. "What Are Our Young People Really Doing?" (noon), a panel with Barron, Leslie Science & Nature Center development director Susan Hutton, and EMU children's literature professor Annette Wannamaker. Teen fiction writer Gary Schmidt (1:30-2:30 p.m.), 2-time Newbery Honor book winner, discusses his work and announces the winners of the Ann Arbor District Library teen writing contest awards.

Michigan League Kalamazoo Room: Local historian Steve Thorp moderates "Harriet Simpson Arnow: Getting to Know Her" (noon), a panel with Arnow biographer and MSU writing professor Haeja Chung and Arnow's niece, Jane Makulski. *Bo's Lasting Lessons* author John Bacon moderates "Writing in the World of Sports" (1:30 p.m.), a panel with Detroit Free Press sports columnist Drew Sharp and Donald Evans, author of *Cubbie Blues: 100 Years of Waiting Till Next Year*. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee creative writing professor and *Dream House* author Valerie Laken and acclaimed New York-based novelist Colson Whitehead discuss "Place and Setting as Critical Elements in Fiction" (3 p.m.). "Pitch Panel" (4 p.m.) offers aspiring writers a chance to pitch their book ideas (for \$10) to a panel of writers.

Michigan League Hussey Room: "Breakfast with the Authors" (8:30-9:45 a.m.) features a chance to meet several of the festival's participating authors, including Peter Yarrow, Colson Whitehead, Desiree Cooper, and Anna Dewdney (\$20; kids ages 6-10, \$10; kids age 5 & under, free; preregistration required). Ann Arbor News editor Jim Knight moderates a newspaper panel (noon-1 p.m.) with Ann Arbor Chronicle publisher Mary Morgan, OpinionArtery.org editor John Beckett, Drew Sharp (see above), and Niall Stanage, author of *Redemption Song: An Irish Reporter Inside the Obama Campaign*. U-M librarian Barbara MacAdam moderates "Future of the Book" (1:30-2:30 p.m.), a panel with U-M librarian Maria Bonn, PassPorter Travel Press publisher David Marx, and Kevin Smokler, author of *Bookmark Now: Writing in an Unreadable World*.

Ingalls Mall Stage 1: National Endowment for the Arts literature chair David Kipen moderates "Big Read" (noon), a panel with Monroe County Community College representative Beth Kohler, Arab American National Museum representative Arlene Wood, and Jackson District Library representatives Donna Smith and Marcia Young. U-M International Institute activities TBA (1 p.m.). Putney, VT, writer Anna Dewdney reads from her new children's book *Llama Llama Misses Mama* (1:30 p.m.) with dance accompaniment by the Ann Arbor Civic Ballet. The U-M International Institute presents "Storytelling from the African Diaspora" (2:30 p.m.) by U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies professor Elizabeth James. Zingerman's cofounder Ari Weinzwieg moderates "Making of a Recipe" (3 p.m.), a panel with *Fork in the Road* author Eric Villegas, *Cool Cuisine: Taking the Bite Out of Global Warming* author Laura Stec, and *Freshman in the Kitchen* author Max Sussman. Also, a celebrity spelling bee (4 p.m.) with returning 2008 champion, Observer deputy editor Michael Betzold.

Ingalls Mall Stage 2: children's sing-along and Q&A with Peter Yarrow (noon), the singer-songwriter best known as a member of the influential 60s pop-folk trio Peter, Paul and Mary. Readings by youth TBA (1 p.m.). *Girls in Trucks* author Katie Crouch and *Everything Asian* author Sung Woo (1:30 p.m.) discuss their experiences getting their first manuscripts published. Readings by youth TBA (2:30 p.m.). A concert by *Tonks and the Aurors* (3 p.m.), the Ann Arbor-based wizard rock band that plays songs about Harry Potter. Poetry reading by Adam Mansbach (4 p.m.), an acclaimed fiction writer and poet whose work draws on hip-hop and comedy.

U-M Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library Gallery: Experts are on hand to answer questions about "Library Treasures" (2-5 p.m.), a book display that includes everything from early rare tomes to contemporary graphic novels. Also, "The Impact of the Google Settlement" (3 p.m.), a panel discussion with U-M public policy professor Paul Courant, U-M law professor Jack Bernard, and U-M librarian John Wilkin.

U-M Undergraduate Shapiro Library: demonstrations of the "Espresso Book Machine" (2-4 p.m.), a press that makes one book at a time.

U-M Chemistry Auditorium: local pediatrician Chris Elkins interviews pediatrician, writer, and Reach Out and Read president Perri Klass (6:30-8 p.m.). \$5 in advance at aabookfestival.org & 369-3366, and at the door.

11 a.m.-5 p.m., Ingalls Mall, the Michigan League, and U-M Libraries. Free (unless otherwise noted), preregistration (where relevant) at aabookfestival.org or 369-3366.

★"Swordplay Extravaganza": Ring of Steel. Michigan Opera Theatre fight director Chris Barbeau presents a series of swordplay stunts with broadsword, rapier, and other weapons. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., U-M Student Theatre Arts Complex, 1201 Kipke Dr. (behind Crisler Arena). Free. 320-1147.

"6th Annual Tour of Remodeled Homes": National Association of the Remodeling Industry. May 16 & 17. Tour of 12 homes in Washtenaw County with remodeled kitchens, baths, sunrooms, and more. Noon-6 p.m., various locations. Tickets \$10 (kids age 16 & under, free) in advance at narisemich.org. (866) 934-4094.

★"Huron River Treasure Hunting": Huron River Watershed Council. Michigan Geocache Organization representative Bob Hospadaruk explains geocaching, a family-friendly treasure hunting game in which participants use GPS devices to find hidden containers outdoors. Followed by a talk on Huron River history by local historian Grace Shackman. This event is an introduction to the Huron History Mystery Tour, a summer-long geocache contest to find 22 caches hidden over a 100-mile stretch of the Huron River. 1 p.m., HRWC, 1100 N. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 769-5123, ext. 19.

★"Buddha's Birthday Celebration": Zen Buddhist Temple. May 16 & 17 (different programs & times). The most festive occasion of the Buddhist year begins with the 8th Annual Buddha's Birthday Poetry Event. All poets are invited to read a poem. An "Evening Celebration" (6 p.m.) includes a buffet with vegetarian hors d'oeuvres, entrees, and dessert, followed by a program of storytelling by Yvonne Healy and music TBA. 2:30-8:30 p.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. All events are free, except Evening Celebration (adults, \$12; students, \$6; small children, \$5; families, \$30). Tickets available in advance and at the door. 761-6520.

"Gospel Spaghetti!": One Voice Gospel Choir. The choir prepares and serves a spaghetti dinner followed at 7 p.m. by a program of gospel songs. 6 p.m., St. Paul United Church of Christ, 122 W. Michigan, Saline. \$15 (kids age 9 & under, \$5; concert only, \$10). Reservations requested. 439-8462, 845-1985.

"WineFest 2009": Ann Arbor Art Center 27th Annual WineFest. This ritzy wine tasting usually draws more than 600 people and features live and silent auctions and a strolling supper, followed by classic soul music spun by Ann Arbor Soul Club, the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. Also, pottery wheel demos. Black tie optional. 6 p.m.-midnight, Four Points Sheraton, 3200 Boardwalk. Tickets \$200 in advance only at winefest.org. 994-8004, ext. 101.

"Frog Fest": Leslie Science & Nature Center. Family-oriented program includes practice making frog calls followed by a walk to the pond to listen to the frogs and toads. Also, games and other activities to discover more about frogs, toads, and salamanders. 7-9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$8 (family, \$30). Preregistration required. 997-1553.

Gala Fund-Raiser: Children's Creative Center. Live music by a band TBA, followed by dancing to a DJ. Silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, cash bar. 7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. \$50. 769-0019.

"The Merchant of Venice": St. Augustine's Home-school Enrichment Program. See 15 Friday. 7 p.m. Student Productions: Pioneer High School Theater Guild. See 15 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Dandelion Wine": Young Actors Guild. See 15 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Robin Warner and Peter Baker call to music by Picks 'n' Sticks. No partner needed; all dances taught. Lesson at 7:45 p.m. Also, a free open jam for string and other musicians, 3-6 p.m. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$10 (Grange members, \$7). Dance: 426-0241. Open jam: 994-9307.

"Requiem for a Paper Bag": FOUND Magazine's Denim & Diamonds Tour 2009. FOUND magazine creator Davy Rothbart reads from this new collection of found tales that features contributors ranging from actor Seth Rogan to indie-folk singer-songwriter Devendra Banhart, and his brother Peter Rothbart performs some of the amazing and ridiculous songs he has written based on found notes, letters, and other writings published in the magazine. Signing. 8 p.m., The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. \$5 donation. 358-3832.

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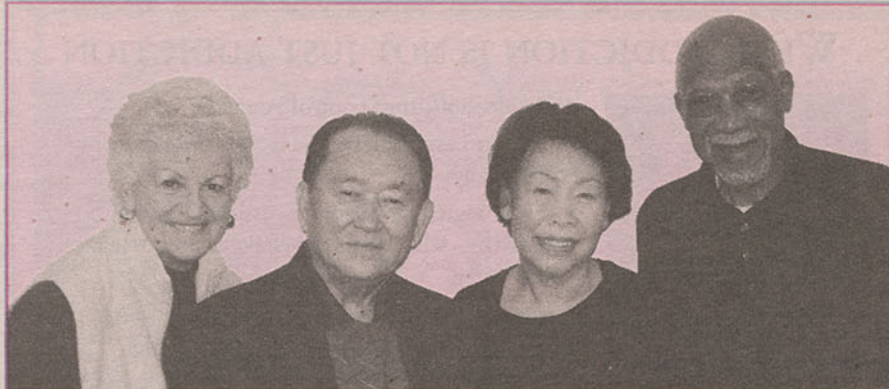
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Washtenaw Community College

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Workshops • May 11-15

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Open Houses • Saturday, May 9 – Sunday, May 17 at Senior Housing Communities

Abbey Park at Mill River	Clare Bridge of Ann Arbor	Mill Pond Manor	The Gilbert Residence
American House Carpenter	Ester Guest Home	Sanctuary at St. Joseph's Village	The Pines Senior Apartments
Brecon Village - Evangelical Homes of Michigan	Glacier Hills Retirement Community	Silver Maples of Chelsea	The Village of Redford - Presbyterian Villages of Michigan
Brookhaven Manor Retirement Community	Glastonbury Adult Foster Care	Sunrise Senior Living - Ann Arbor	The Village of Westland - Presbyterian Villages of Michigan
Carpenter Place	Hillside Terrace Retirement Community	Sunrise Senior Living - North Ann Arbor	Towne Centre Place
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PLATINUM Ann Arbor Transportation Authority	Home Instead Senior Care Silver Maples of Chelsea	SILVER Abbey Park at Mill River Arbor Hospice	Presbyterian Villages of MI Sanctuary at St. Joseph's Village

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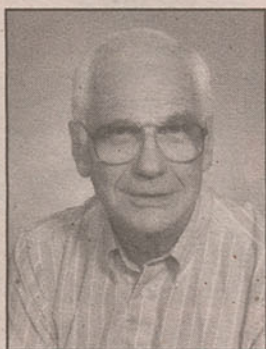
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"Renaissance Music": Ann Arbor Grail Singers. Deborah Friauff directs this 16-member women's early-music choir in works by Palestrina and Thomas Tallis and Chiara Margarita Cozzolani's dramatic "O caeli cives." Accompanied by keyboardist Friauff and viola da gambist Marilyn Fung. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. \$15 (seniors, \$12; students, \$5) at the door only. 662-0361.

"The Continuing and Ongoing Adventures of Susie the Time Traveling Sea Slug": Dreamland Theater. The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents a kid-friendly puppet show about a sea slug and her rabbit friend who meet a 1920s cartoon character on their time-traveling adventures. 8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657-2337.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday, 3 & 8 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday, 3 & 8 p.m.

"Betrayal": Michigan Classical Repertory Theatre. See 7 Thursday, 8 p.m.

Tony Deyo: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 15 Friday, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers. May 16 & 23. A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments, including the huge, 24-inch McMath telescope, at the Peach Mountain Observatory. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. 8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear. Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332-9132.

17 SUNDAY

★"Great Lakes Orchid Judging": American Orchid Society. All invited to view flowering orchids. Awards are given to growers of new and superior orchids and orchid hybrids. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 647-7600.

"27th Annual For Women Only 5K Run and Fitness Walk": Ann Arbor Track Club. Women and girls of all ages are invited to participate in a USATF/RRTC-certified 5-km run or fitness walk along a flat course on the campus of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Cash awards to overall, master, and grand master winners and awards for top 3 runners in 13 & under, 14-16, 17-19, and subsequent 5-year age divisions. Portion of the proceeds donated to SafeHouse Center and Girls on the Run in Southeastern Michigan. 8:30 a.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Ellen Thomas Women's Health Center, 5301 Huron River Dr. Entry fee: \$25 (age 15 & under, \$22) online registration by noon May 15 at atrackclub.org, \$28 (age 15 & under, \$25) by mail (to Julie Kerry, 1666 Towlesley Ln, AA 48105) postmarked by May 12, & \$30 day of race. 663-5680.

"2nd Annual Dolphin Dash": Dicken Elementary School. 5-km run and walk (9 a.m.), 100-yard kids dash (10:30 a.m.), and 1-mile fun run and walk (11 a.m.). Awards. Packet pickup at a May 16 race expo, noon-4 p.m. at Tortoise & Hare, 2631 Plymouth Rd. 9 a.m., Dicken School, 2135 Runnymede (off Alhambra from W. Stadium). \$18 (kids age 11 & under, \$16) for the 5-km run/walk, \$10 for the kids dash, \$14 (kids age 11 & under, \$12; family \$20) for the 1-mile run/walk in advance only at runmichigan.com, dicken.a2school.org., and (for higher fees) at the race expo. 395-6909.

★Horse Show: Michigan Association of Eventing. Jumping, cross-country riding, and dressage competitions at the state level. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Cobblestone Farms, 6301 Gregory Rd. (east off Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. 369-2633.

★"Buddha's Birthday Celebration": Zen Buddhist Temple. See 16 Saturday. Today's program begins at 9:30 a.m. with the telling of the story of Buddha's birth and the traditional "Bathing of Baby Buddha" with sweet tea. It is followed at 11 a.m. by the "Peace and Happiness Street Parade" for children of all ages. Kids invited to bring decorated bikes, strollers, hats, banners, and flags. At 1 p.m., a panel discussion on "Doing Time, Doing Dharma" with Buddhists working in Michigan prisons. Followed by discussion. Also, an introductory lecture-demonstration on Zen meditation (3 p.m.) and an evening program (7:30 p.m.) that includes chanting and lighting of traditional lotus lanterns, along with scriptural readings by representatives from other area Buddhist groups. 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

"English Tea": TeaHaus/Cake Nouveau. A traditional English tea with scones, finger sandwiches, sweets, and tea. Also, a TeaHaus staffer gives a brief history of English tea traditions. 10 a.m. and 1 & 4 p.m., Cake Nouveau, 206 N. Fourth Ave. \$26 (\$50 per twosome). Reservations required. 662-0460.

31st Annual Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair: Ann Arbor Antiquarian Booksellers Association/Ann Arbor Book Festival. (See My Town, p. 21). One of the country's top regional antiquarian fairs, with more than 40 dealers from 8 states offering manuscripts, vintage photos and prints, antique maps, and a wide array of old, rare, curious, and fine books, including cookbooks, art books, long out-of-print children's books, first editions, and books on early Americans, Michigan history, travel and exploration, and more. Also, "Clues to Sherlock Holmes: The Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at Michigan" (2 p.m., 100 Hatcher Grad Library, 920 North University), a talk by exhibit donor Philip Parker and U-M English professor Daniel Hack, followed at 3:30 p.m. by the opening of this new U-M Special Collections Library exhibit (see Galleries). Book Fair admission charge benefits the U-M Clements Library. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$5 donation. 995-1891, 764-9377.

"Celebrate Israel Festival": Jewish Community Center. This family-oriented festival celebrating Israel's 61st Independence Day and Tel Aviv's 100th birthday features Israeli dancing, entertainment TBA, and Israeli street food. Also, a Tel Aviv café, a disco, craft demos, and more. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5 (family, \$10). Preregistration requested. 971-0990.

★Canoe Race: Manchester Kiwanis. All invited to join or watch this thrilling 3-mile race down the River Raisin to Mill Pond near Main St., where most spectators congregate. Noon, Fellows Bridge launch area on Sharon Valley Rd., Manchester. Free to spectators. \$10 per canoeist in advance; \$12 after May 14. Corporate class: \$50 per boat. 428-8972.

"Carp Art & Paddle": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to paddle around Gallup Pond to look for spawning carp and then make a carp-shaped banner or flag. 1-3 p.m., Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). \$18 (includes canoe or kayak rental). 794-6240.

★"Townie Fair Teen Topper": Ann Arbor District Library. May 17 & 31. Modati Clothing staff are on hand to help teens in grades 6-12 make a wacky topper hat (or several) for the July 13 Townie Street Party. 1-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Ohio Research": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Bowling Green State University Center for Archival Collections reference archivist Stephen Charter. Followed by "There Are No Dumb Questions in Genealogy," a Q&A with a panel of club members. 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483-2799.

★"Cassidy Road Bog Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club. Six-mile hike led by local outdoorsman Barry Lonik. Meet at 1 p.m. at Zingerman's Roadhouse (2501 Jackson) if you want to carpool. 1:45 p.m., trailhead on Cassidy Rd. (1/2 mile north of Waterloo Rd.), Waterloo Recreation Area. Free. 477-5715.

★"Oncidium": Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Ecuadorian orchid expert Eduardo Sanchez discusses these orchids that are sometimes called "dancing ladies." Also, an orchid show-and-tell, orchid sales, a silent auction, raffles, and a chance to grill experts on problem plants. Refreshments. 1:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663-0756.

★Friends of Four-Hand Piano. Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. 2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971-6261, 485-5007.

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All children and their parents or grandparents invited for contra and square dancing and cookies. 2-4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$12 per family. 769-1052.

"Hawk, I'm Your Brother": Wild Swan Theater. This award-winning local children's theater presents its adaptation of Byrd Baylor's children's book about a Native American boy who longs to fly like a hawk. With live music by local singer-songwriter Joe Reilly. Cast: Aidan Feldman, Gulshirin Dubash, Nathan Mitchell, and Sandy Ryder. At 1:15 and 2:45 p.m., Leslie Science & Nature Center naturalist Francie Krawcke gives a raptor presentation with a live red-tail hawk. Proceeds benefit the Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation. 2 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets \$12 (4-person family pass, \$25) in advance at aapsef.org and at the door. Reservations recommended for the raptor presentation. 995-0530.

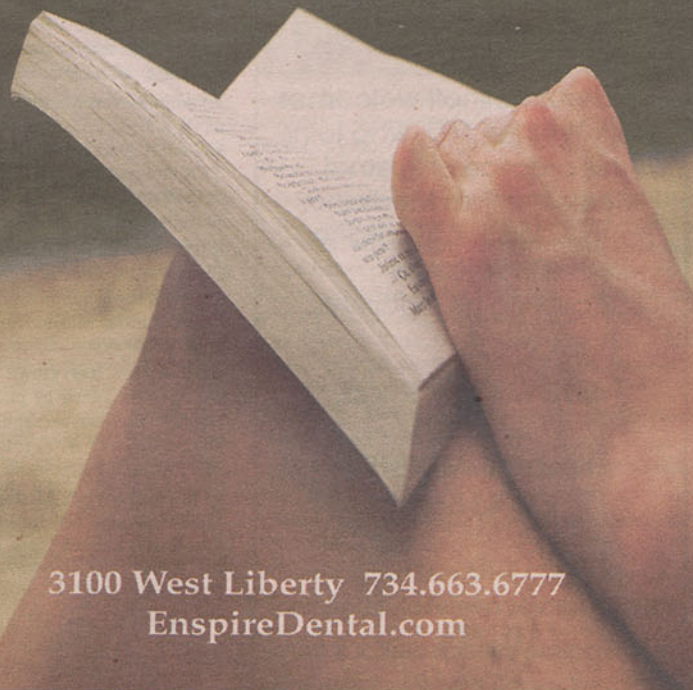
"Dandelion Wine": Young Actors Guild. See 15 Friday, 2 p.m.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday, 2 p.m.



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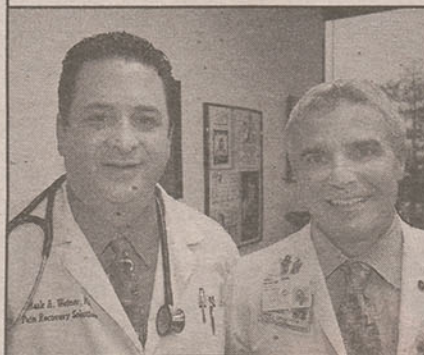
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Student Productions: Pioneer High School Theater Guild. See 15 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Changing Role of Abstraction": U-M Museum of Art. Talk by UMMA modern and contemporary art curator Jacob Proctor. 3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

John Glick: Clay Gallery. This Plum Tree Pottery (Farmington Hills) owner discusses the current exhibit of his pottery (see Galleries). 3 p.m., Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. Free. 662-7927.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 3 Sunday. Today: "The Continuing and Ongoing Adventures of Susie the Time Traveling Sea Slug." 3:30 p.m.

Dexter Community Orchestra. Don Parrish conducts the orchestra in Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture* and Dvorak's *Symphony no. 8* in D. Also, Kaba-levsky's *Cello Concerto no. 2* featuring the winner of the DCO Young Artist Competition, cellist Nathaniel Pierce. 4 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker, Dexter. Free. 426-2734, 355-0725.

Annual New Music Festival: American Guild of Organists. Local organists are joined by the First United Methodist Church choir and other musicians TBA in a performance of new compositions. 4 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 994-9301.

Rainbow Book Club. All invited to discuss *Gay Travels in the Muslim World*, Michael Luongo's collection of travel narratives by gay men who have traveled to various Muslim countries since 9/11. 4:30-6 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763-4168.

Andrea Yun: Kerrytown Concert House. This local cellist is joined by pianist Michele Cooker and cellist Pablo Mahave-Veglia in a program TBA. 4:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

The Gaza Strip: Michigan Peace Team Benefit. Slide-illustrated talk by Father Peter Dougherty of the Michigan Peace Team. Preceded at 6 p.m. by dinner. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 donation. 665-4010.

Concert4aCause III: Northside Community Church. The Detroit Civic Orchestra Brass Quintet, DSO bass trombonist Randall Hawes, the piano duo Renee Robbins and Mary Bates, pianists Kathryn Goodson and Adrienne Clark, singer-pianist Marc Aust, and baritone Chris Grapentine perform a varied program that ranges from works by Chopin and Sondheim to music from *The Wizard of Oz* and *West Side Story*. Proceeds benefit Friends in Deed. 7:30 p.m., Northside Community Church, 929 Barton Dr. Donation. 662-6351.

18 MONDAY

World War Pacific Theater Photos: Sons of the American Revolution. Talk by photographer Ken Holmes. 10 a.m.-noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 464-7702.

Cemetery Dance: Nicola's Books. Maine writer Douglas Preston and New Jersey writer Lincoln Child discuss their novel about an FBI special agent whose unorthodox investigative tactics lead him to a dangerous cult. Signing. Noon, Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

Embroiderers Guild of America. Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. 7 p.m., United Way, 2305 Platt. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues). 975-4348.

Nonfiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of Tim Russert's memoir *Big Russ and Me*. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

Creating and Maintaining Community: What Nurtures and What Sabotages: Sunward Cohousing. Talk by Sunward Cohousing founder Nick Meima and local social worker Michael Andes. 7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 663-5516.

The Language of Bees: Nicola's Books. Popular mystery writer Laurie King discusses the latest novel in her series about Sherlock Holmes and his wife, who this time must help her husband reverse his greatest mistake. *The Washington Post Book World* calls the novel "a one-woman case for the defense of unauthorized literary sequels." 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

19 TUESDAY

Fair Isle String Quartet. House concert by this local professional ensemble. Members are violinists Molly Hughes and Maria Bucco, violist Connie Markwick, and cellist Stefan Koch. The program includes Verdi's String Quartet in E minor, Shostakovich's String Quartet no. 3 in F major, and other works

TBA. 5 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). Free. 649-7717.

★**Writers Reading at Sweetwaters.** Retired Huron High English teacher David Stringer reads from his recent collection *Inhale/Exhale*. Followed by open-mike readings for poets and other creative writers. 7-9 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 369-2798.

★**"How Safe Is Your Energy? What Michigan Citizens Need to Know about Local Nuclear Power Plants":** Huron Valley Sierra Club. Talk by Don't Waste Michigan representative Michael Keegan. Followed by discussion. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 647-7600.

20 WEDNESDAY

★**"Genetic Polymorphisms Affecting Human Diseases":** U-M Human Genetics Department Annual James Neel Lecture. Talk by Johns Hopkins University genetics professor Aravinda Chakravarti. 3 p.m., BSRB, 109 Zina Pitcher Pl. Free. 763-0682.

★**"Washtenaw County Bike Rides: A Guide to Road Rides in and around Ann Arbor":** Shaman Drum Bookshop. U-M Program in Society and Medicine director Joel Howell, an avid biker, discusses his new book. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**"Mallets Creek":** Pittsfield Union Grange. Talk by Mallets Creek Watershed Association member Jesse Gordon. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass; table service provided). 7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). Free. 769-1052.

★**Channelled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channelled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. 7:30 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 477-5848.

★**"Spiders and Their Kin":** Washtenaw Audubon Society. Slide-illustrated talk by EMU biology professor Cara Shillington. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677-3275.

★**"The Mousetrap":** Emergent Arts. May 20-24. Debra Reichard directs area actors in Agatha Christie's intricate murder mystery thriller, which opened in London in 1952 and has played there ever since. Newlyweds transform their inherited English manor house into an inn. On opening day, amid rumors of a murderer at large, the inn's somewhat questionable guests become snowbound, and after an unexpected discovery begin eyeing each other fearfully. "One of the most skillfully written murder mysteries ever produced," notes the *New York Times*. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theater, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. \$20 (students with ID & seniors, \$16; May 20 preview tickets, \$10) in advance at emergentarts.com and at the door. 330-7815.

★**"Bleeding Red":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

21 THURSDAY

★**Book Club:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 50 & over invited to join Lucia Skoman to discuss a book TBA at a2gov.org/senior. 10:45 a.m.-noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**"Google Documents":** Ann Arbor District Library. AADL staffers introduce the basic functions and practical applications for this new technology for storing and sharing documents online. A complete list of AADL web programs in May is available at aadl.org/classes. 1 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 327-8367.

★**"Restoration Efforts in Detroit":** Daughters of the American Revolution. Talk by DAR scholarship winner Jenna Walker. 1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975-1976.

★**Ann Arbor Society for Origami.** All children & adults invited to learn about and try origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. 7-9:30 p.m., Great Oaks Cohousing Common House, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 975-4669.

★**"Yoga Beyond Fitness: Getting More Than Exercise from an Ancient Spiritual Practice":** Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Milwaukee-based yoga instructor and social scientist Tom Pilarzyk discusses his new book. Signing. 7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**"Flower Gardening":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by local master gardener Carol Brodbeck. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Gordon Hall":** Michigan Archaeological Society. Members of the Dexter Historical Society lead a tour of this historic Greek Revival building. Also, U-M anthropology professor Henry Wright gives a brief talk on the results of an archaeological survey of the grounds. 7 p.m., Gordon Hall, 8347 Island Lake Rd. (off Dexter-Pinckney Rd. just west of downtown Dexter). Free. (248) 437-4183.

★**"Biobanking: From Global Phenomena to Michigan Commodity":** Ann Arbor District Library. May 14 & 21. Last 2 in a series of 4 forums on biobanks—repositories of blood and DNA—and their implications for society. The May discussions, moderated by U-M Life Sciences and Society associate director Susan King and Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County executive director George Lambides, focus on "Biobanking in Michigan?" (May 14) and "Where Do We Stand?" (May 21). Q&A. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4560.

★**Robert Underhill: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This retired psychoanalyst, a U-M grad, reads from his 3rd mystery novel, *Death of the Mystery Novel*. It's about a U-M English department chair who invites best-selling thriller and mystery writers to be honored at the university, where they are then murdered in a manner fitting to their respective writing styles. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**"From the Heart":** The Neutral Zone/SPARSH. Local youth present music, dance, poetry readings, and visual art to benefit SPARSH, a foundation that helps Indian children who need heart surgery. Also, Calcutta surgeon Srirup Chatterjee reports on the SPARSH heart surgery project. Indian food. 6:30 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Tickets \$12 (seniors age 55 & over and students, \$8) in advance by calling 668-8137 and at the door. 214-9995.

★**"Fences":** Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"The Mousetrap":** Emergent Arts. See 20 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

★**"Bleeding Red":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Comedy Jamm":** Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

22 FRIDAY

★**Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to discuss the influential Jungian analyst Robert A. Johnson's *Living Your Unlived Life: Coping with Unrealized Dreams and Fulfilling Your Purpose in the Second Half of Life*. 7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**"Kirtan":** Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761-7435.

★**"The Importance of Being Earnest":** Explorers Drama Club. May 22 & 23. Leanne Wade directs an ensemble of area home-schooled high school students in Oscar Wilde's deliciously irreverent comedy of manners, a late Victorian classic whose strongest attraction is Wilde's wonderfully etched epigrammatic language. The story concerns a founding who must establish his bona fides to the satisfaction of his prospective mother-in-law, London's leading social dragon, who is not about to allow her daughter to marry a nonentity. 7:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$5 (family, \$15) in advance at explorersdramaclub.org and EarnestTickets@live.com, and at the door. 340-4745.

★**"Fences":** Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"The Mousetrap":** Emergent Arts. See 20 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

★**"Bleeding Red":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**Cleveland: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** May 22 & 23. Ann Arbor debut of this young comic known for his thought-provoking, somewhat edgy observational humor about urban life from an African American perspective. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the early shows are nonsmoking. 8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$8 reserved seating in advance, \$10 general admission at the door. 996-9080.

23 SATURDAY

★**"Hudson Mills Metropark":** Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS member Karen Markey leads a hike to look for a variety of birds usually found in the park, including cuckoos, ruby-throated hummingbirds, woodpeckers, vireos, flycatchers, thrushes, war-

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blers, tanagers, and more. Bring a beverage; insect repellent recommended. 7:30 a.m., meet in the Hudson Mills Activity Center parking lot, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. \$4 vehicle entrance fee. 994-3569.

★31st Annual Great Lakes Special Stockdog Trials: Southeast Michigan Australian Shepherd Association. May 23-25 Numerous Australian shepherd dogs and other herding breeds compete to herd ducks, sheep, and cattle. 9 a.m.-afternoon, Imagine Farm, 10202 Hogan (east off M-52), Manchester. Free. 718-5081.

★"Charity Hat Tournament": Ann Arbor Ultimate. All invited to compete in this spirited team sport. Names are pulled from a hat in order to form teams. Beginners welcome. Proceeds benefit a charity TBA. The club also sponsors weekly pickup games (see 3 Sunday listing). 10 a.m., Lillie Park, Platt at Ellsworth (entrance on Platt, 1/2 mile south of Ellsworth). Cost TBA. info@a2ultimate.org.

★Nature's Expressions. May 23 & 24. Show and sale of crystalline mineral specimens, fossils, shells, mounted butterflies and insects, and more. Includes a complete fossil skeleton of a 9-foot, 100,000-year-old cave bear. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 3443 Daleview Dr. (off N. Maple Rd. north of Huron River Dr.). Free. 994-3048.

LaRon Williams: Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Interactive storytelling program by this popular local storyteller, a specialist in African American stories who uses a wide range of dialects, gestures, and facial expressions to conjure all sorts of human, animal, and supernatural characters. He often accompanies his stories on African and African American folk instruments, and his repertoire includes folk, literary, historical, and musical tales. 11 a.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets \$10 (youth 16 & under, \$7) in advance at performance-network.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663-0681.

★"1st Annual Classic Automobile Show": Ann Arbor City Club. (See Up Front, p. 9). A show of vintage, classic, and collectible cars. Concessions. Noon-6 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. \$12 to enter a car (preregistration required at annarborcityclub.org by May 14). 995-0085, 426-5908, 662-3279.

★"Jamie and Jordan": Performance Network Children's Theater Network/Cranbrook Whole Foods Kids Club. All kids (accompanied by a parent) invited to watch Royal Oak playwright Kim Carney's hilarious musical about the importance of both a healthy lifestyle and a healthy friendship. 1 p.m., Cranbrook Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. Free. Preregistration required. 997-9707.

U-M Detroit Observatory. Docent-guided tours, about 30 minutes long, of photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. 1-4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. \$5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763-2230.

★Cultural Show: Children's Russian Club. Local Russian children present (in Russian) their original dramatizations of *This Old, Old Fairy Tale*, Yuli Dunskey and Valeri Frid's screenplay based on Hans Christian Andersen stories and *Tevye the Milkman*, Grigory Gorin's drama based on Sholem Aleichem's classic tale about a pious Jewish dairyman in Czarist Russia, best known through its adaptation for the musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. English synopses provided. 5 p.m., WCC Liberal Arts & Sciences Bldg. Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 741-1953.

★"The Importance of Being Earnest": Explorers Drama Club. See 22 Friday. 6:30 p.m.

★"PhoenixPhest 2008": Phoenix Ensemble. May 23 & 24 (different programs). A chamber concert featuring members of this polished local ensemble culminates a 3-day workshop for youth musicians. Program: Tchaikovsky's *Souvenir de Florence*, Stephen Katz's *The Return*, Brahms' Sextet no. 1 in B-Flat Major, Faure's Piano Quartet no. 1 in C Minor, and the 4th movement of Mendelssohn's Octet. Workshop students perform tomorrow at 3 p.m. 7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Tickets \$15 in advance and at the door. 358-2100, 223-2984.

4th Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Ed Vincent calls to music by the Bowling Green, OH, band the Root Cellar Old Time String Band. No partner needed. All dances taught. Beginner lessons at 7:40 p.m. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded by a free open jam for string and other musicians, 3-6 p.m. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$9 (members, \$8; students, \$5). Dance: 730-6919. Open jam: 994-9307.

★"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★"The Mousetrap": Emergent Arts. See 20 Wednesday. 2 & 8 p.m.

memorial day



BARRY FISHMAN

The Glazier Way Memorial Day Parade

Candy, donkeys,
and remembrance

I am still in the kitchen making breakfast when the police sirens begin to sound. The children, who have been running in and out of the house all morning, shout, "The parade is here! It's starting!"

Ann Arbor's only Memorial Day Parade takes place every year (for the last twenty-five years) in the northeast corner of Ann Arbor. A cute little neighborhood parade, it starts at Greenbrier Park and winds its way past our house and down Bardstown on its way to Glacier Highlands Park on Larchmont. This is Pfizer Land, and all the neighbors are out in front of their houses for the first time since the end of winter, talking about housing prices and sales, checking out the new babies, and reconfirming who is having the barbecue this year.

As my children scurry around excitedly, I remind them one last time that they have to be respectful, that Memorial Day is actually a very somber occasion, one that honors the brave men and women who have given their lives to protect our freedom in America, and that although we do not glorify war, their great-grandfathers on both sides were military men.

Leading the parade are three elderly vets carrying the American flag, accompanied by

the snappy Huron High School Drumline. The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and Brownies are all here in their uniforms, passing out candy with their families. State Representative Pam Byrnes brings a fluffy miniature donkey pulling a covered wagon. The Ann Arbor Chinese Center of Michigan comes with a team of athletic Lion Dancers, jumping and kicking their way down the street. The Ecology Center EcoRide brings a team of bicyclists. A fire truck and a van from Busch's add some more color. A long red classic convertible brings up the rear with calliope playing.

The whole neighborhood joins the procession on bikes, scooters, strollers, and wagons decorated with red, white, and blue. We bike down together as a family, stopping to visit with neighbors and friends who live a little further down. As we ride past Mr. Bentley's old house on Bardstown, we remember how he used to dress in full uniform and salute as the whole parade went by.

Once at the park, everyone settles down quickly as the names of all the Michigan servicemen who were killed in action this past year are read aloud. The Scouts line up to watch the color guard. A Clague student we know plays *Taps*. Then all the neighborhood children swarm onto the doughnuts before dispersing again out to the bright blue play structures.

This year's Glacier Area Homeowners Association Memorial Day Parade will be Monday, May 25.

—Frances Kai-Hwa Wang

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday, 3 & 8 p.m.

Cleveland: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 22 Friday 8 & 10:30 p.m.

24 SUNDAY

★**Dan Rice Memorial Regatta:** U-M Sailing Club. All invited to watch club members race their zippy JY15 dinghies around Base Line Lake in a regatta dedicated to the club's late longtime sailing instructor. 10 a.m., Baseline Lake, 8010 Strawberry Lake Rd., left from Mast off North Territorial Free. 426-4299.

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-5763.

★**25th Annual Memorial Day Observance:** Arborcrest Memorial Park. This annual tribute features speeches by local officeholders, veterans, and military officers. Attendees include local veteran associations, the junior color guard, a drill team, and several Girl and Boy Scout troops. Live entertainment TBA. Also, a bugle salute. Rain or shine. Refreshments. Limited seating; bring a chair or blanket to sit on. 2 p.m., Arborcrest Memorial Park, 2521 Glazier Way (behind the VA hospital, 1/4 mile west of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 761-4572.

"Fences": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday, 2 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday, 2 p.m.

"The Mousetrap": Emergent Arts. See 20 Wednesday, 2 p.m.

★**"Painting and Public Life in the 21st Century":** U-M Museum of Art. Talk by UMMA modern and contemporary art curator Jacob Proctor. 3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 3 Sunday. Today: "The Continuing and Ongoing Adventures of Susie the Time Traveling Slug." 3:30 p.m.

25 MONDAY (Memorial Day)

★**Memorial Day Parade:** Glacier Area Home Owners' Association/Ann Arbor Optimists Breakfast Club. See review above. Ann Arbor's oldest neighborhood parade—and the best one in the area for young kids and their families—is a 6-block jaunt that features a color guard and drum corps of Huron High students, a police car, fire truck, and Girl and Boy Scout troops. Kids invited to make small floats or decorate their bikes and join in at the end of the parade. Parents with strollers also can join in. Followed by a brief memorial service in Glacier Highlands

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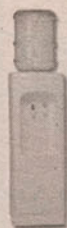
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Park. 10 a.m., Frederick to Middleton to Bardstown to Windemere to Barrister. Free. 662-3261.

26 TUESDAY

★“Freedom in Your Relationship with Your Food”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Maui (Hawaii) Yoga and Ayurveda owner Myra Lewin discusses her new book. Signing. 7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★“Bleeding Red”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

27 WEDNESDAY

★Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor Area Robotics Club. All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and discuss their current gadgets and toys. 7 p.m., A2 Mech Shop, 240 Parkland Plaza, 179 Little Lake Dr. (off eastbound Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 332-1000.

★“Houses Are for Living: A Public Forum”: Religious Action for Affordable Housing. Short presentations by organizations helping people at risk of foreclosure, nonprofits providing affordable housing, and city/county community development officials. Followed by open discussion of future housing policies. 7-9 p.m., Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence. Free. 821-0345.

★“Multicultural Toolbox: Strategies for Raising Our Children with Culture(s), Language(s), and Pride”: Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by Ann Arbor Chinese Center outreach coordinator and IMDiversity.com American Asian Village editor Frances Kai-Hwa Wang, a 2nd-generation Chinese American originally from California. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.

★Richard Tillinghast: Shaman Drum Bookshop. A U-M English professor emeritus who now lives in rural Ireland, this award-winning poet known for his distinctively musical free-verse poems reads from his intimate, entertaining new study *Finding Ireland: A Poet's Explorations of Irish Literature and Culture*. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★“Working Critique”: Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. Club members Cyril Grum, Bill Heston, and Jack Winkle help improve the design of challenging bonsai trees. Also, pruning and wiring demos. Bring your own tree and tools. Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 747-6493.

★“Bleeding Red”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★“Amateur Night”: Dreamland Theater. Open mike for musicians, puppeteers, animal trainers, dancers, storytellers, and other performers. 8:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Donation. Sign-up begins at 8 p.m. 657-2337.

28 THURSDAY

★“Kids Art Fair”: Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K-8 invited to submit art work to be included in a juried Kids Art Fair at the Townie Street Party on July 13. Bring samples of your work and be prepared to talk to judges. 5-8 p.m. (May 28) & 1-3 p.m. (May 31), AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4200.

★“In Grand Fashion: Traditional Garments in Modern Japan”: U-M Museum of Art. Talk by UMMA Asian art research curator Natsu Oyobe. 5 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★Family Night: Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All invited to play board games. 7-8 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. Free; donations accepted. 945-8602.

★Elmore Leonard and Peter Leonard: Ann Arbor District Library/Aunt Agatha's Mystery Bookshop. Celebrated Detroit mystery writer Elmore Leonard and his son Peter discuss their careers and their new mystery novels with renowned Whitmore Lake mystery writer Loren Estleman, who has a new western novel. Signing. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★Rachel DeWoskin: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This Ann Arbor native, author of the best-selling memoir *Foreign Babes in Beijing*, reads from *Repeat after Me*, her new novel, an alternately funny and painful love story about a young New Yorker, trying to put her life together after her parents' divorce and her own nervous breakdown, who meets a young Chinese student who flips her world upside down. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★“Vanities”: Redbud Productions. May 28-31. Loreta Grimes directs local actors in Jack Heifner's hit 1976 comedy about the growth of a friendship among 3 small-town women from their days as high-school cheerleaders in the 1960s to their adult lives. 8 p.m.,

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. \$18 (students & seniors, \$15). 663-7167.

★“Bleeding Red”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

★“Comedy Jamm”: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

29 FRIDAY

Ya'ssoo Greek Festival: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. May 29-31 (different times). This popular lively festival that drew over 5,000 people last year features Greek food and pastries, including a *kafenio* featuring *loukoumathes* (honey-dipped doughnut puffs), *karithopita* (walnut cakes), and other delicacies. Entertainment includes the Detroit bouzouki band Enigma (Fri., 5-11 p.m. & Sat., 2-11 p.m.) and dancing each afternoon by the Kyklos Hellenic Dancers from Detroit and the St. Nicholas Dancers. Also, a return of the popular church tours, raffles, and a sale of Greek souvenirs, jewelry, ceramics, books, and more. 11 a.m.-midnight, St. Nicholas, 3109 Scio Church Rd. \$3 (free for kids age 12 & under and for anyone arriving before 3 p.m. on Fri. or before noon on Sat. & Sun.). 663-0270.

★3rd Annual Bee on Board for Literacy Spelling Bee: Family Learning Institute. Three-member teams representing local organizations, nonprofits, and businesses vie for a trophy. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages included. Proceeds benefit the Family Learning Institute, a local nonprofit devoted to improving literacy and communication skills of low-income students in grades 4-8. 7-11 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$35 available in advance only. 995-6816.

★“Big Bang”: The Neutral Zone. Music, dance, and other performances TBA by local teens. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a reception. 7-10 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214-9995.

★“Into the Woods”: EMU Theatre Department. May 29-31 and June 4-6. EMU drama professor Ken Stevens directs EMU drama students Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's Tony Award-winning musical, a series of darkly comic “fractured fairy tales” that begins as a lively fantasy and ends as a moving lesson about community responsibility. The characters include a witch who raps, a blood-thirsty Little Red Riding Hood, an indecisive Cinderella, and a Prince Charming with a roving eye. Sondheim's unusually eclectic score ranges from jazz to vaudeville to rhapsodic ballads and operatic duets and trios. 7 p.m., Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 (students, \$12) in advance and at the door. 487-1221.

★“Finale 2009”: Huron High School. May 29 & 30. Huron students direct and perform their original 1-act plays. 7:30 p.m., HHS, 2727 Fuller Rd. Tickets \$6 (students & seniors, \$4). 994-2095.

★“New Life”: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. The St. Andrew's resident Baroque ensemble Voci dell'Anima presents a program of Baroque music TBA. Members, all EMU music professors, are soprano Deborah Friauff, viola da gambist Debra Loneragan, organist and harpsichordist Pamela Ruitter-Feenstra, and cornetto player Kiri Tollaksen. In celebration of the completion of the 1st phase of St. Andrew's renovation. 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 663-0518.

★5th Friday Fusion Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Ray Bantle, Neil Epstein, and others call a wide variety of dances to music by Twas Brillig and the Mazel Toves. Beginners welcome. Wear cool, casual clothes and bring flat, smooth-sole shoes for dancing. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94), Saline. \$9 (AACTMAD members, \$8; students, \$5). 332-7964.

Ellen Rowe Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. Jazz quartet led by U-M jazz piano professor Rowe. Rowe's most recent CD *Denali Pass* is a musical tribute to her ascent of Mount McKinley in Denali National Park in 2004. Noted Detroit composer-pianist Geri Allen calls the album “a beautifully balanced and inspired journey that showcases [Rowe's] abilities as a strong conceptualist pianist.” With saxophonist Andrew Bishop, bassist Kurt Krahnke, and drummer Pete Siers. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10, \$15, & \$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★“Orpheus Descending”: Blackbird Theatre. Every Fri.-Sun. (except May 31), May 29-June 20. Lynch Travis directs local actors in Tennessee Williams' modern retelling of the Greek myth. When a young musician comes to a small southern town, a middle-aged woman with a dying husband becomes attracted to him. *Orpheus Descending* “is the tale of a wild-spirited boy who wanders into a conventional community of the South and creates the commotion of a fox in a chicken coop,” said Williams of the play in 1957. “But beneath that now familiar

surface it is a play about unanswered questions that haunt the hearts of people and the difference between continuing to ask them . . . and the acceptance of prescribed answers that are not answers at all." 8 p.m., **Blackbird Theatre**, 1600 Pauline (at Kay Pkwy. east of Stadium). \$20 (seniors, \$15; students, \$10) in advance at blackbirdtheatre.org and at the door. May 29 & 30 preview tickets, \$15 & \$10. 332-3848.

"Vanities": Redbud Productions. See 28 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

Steve Burr: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. May 29 & 30. Ann Arbor debut of this young comic from Rochester, New York, whose quick-witted act blends storytelling, observational humor about pop culture, and audience participation. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the early shows are nonsmoking. 8 & 10:30 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$8 reserved seating in advance, \$10 general admission at the door. 996-9080.

30 SATURDAY

***Pre-Team State Gymnastics Meet: GymAmerica.** May 30 & 31. More than 400 young Michigan gymnasts converge for a 2-day meet. Full schedule available at gymamericagymnastics.com. 8:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m., EMU Bowen Field House, Ypsilanti. Free. 971-1667.

Ya'ssoo Greek Festival: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. See 29 Friday. 11 a.m.-midnight.

***Jazz Student Combos: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** AASPA jazz students age 10 to adult perform a program TBA. 2-4 p.m., *The Firefly Club*, 637 S. Main. Free. 213-2000.

"Bonfire on Argo Pond": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to paddle around Argo Pond in the moonlight, with a blazing fire floating in the middle of the pond, to observe birds and other animals as they prepare for their nocturnal lives. 7-10 p.m., *Argo Canoe Livery*, 1055 Longshore Dr. (north off Moore from Broadway at Maiden Lane). \$18 (includes canoe or kayak rental). 794-6241.

"5th Saturday Mayfly Dance": Dr. Grangelove. English country dances (7 p.m.) and contras (8:30 p.m.) to music by Dr. Grangelove. Callers TBA. Refreshments. 7-11 p.m., *Pittsfield Grange*, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$12. 484-9964.

"Into the Woods": EMU Theatre Department. See 29 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Finale 2009": Huron High School. See 29 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

International Folk Dancing. Dancing to recorded music. The program begins with a dance lesson. 8-11 p.m., the barn at *Gretchen's House V*, 2625 Traver. \$3-\$5 (students, \$1-\$3) donation. 995-0011, 709-8748.

"Brown Family Cabaret": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Popular local singer-songwriter **Sari Brown** is joined by her brother, jazz comedian and singer-songwriter **Andrew Brown**, and her dad, R&B singer-songwriter and pianist **Doug Brown**, to play songs from her new CD *The Color Suite*, which comes inside a chapbook of poems, stories, and letter and dream fragments that help connect the narrative threads of the songs. 8-10 p.m., *Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth*, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 665-0409.

"Bleeding Red": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Vanities": Redbud Productions. See 28 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Orpheus Descending": Blackbird Theatre. See 29 Friday. 8 p.m.

Steve Burr: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 29 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

31 SUNDAY

35th Annual Dexter-Ann Arbor Run: Ann Arbor Track Club. The area's biggest running event, this race typically draws thousands of runners from throughout southeast Michigan. Includes a half-marathon (8:50 a.m.) run and 5-km (9:05 a.m.) and 10-km (8 a.m.) runs and fitness walks. Awards to the overall winners and top finishers in each age group. All races conclude on Main Street between Miller and Ann. Post-race entertainment. Preceded on May 30 by a **Race Expo** (2-6 p.m., Ypsilanti High School) that includes a **kids run** (\$10 in advance, \$15 at the Expo) at various distances, depending on age, from 50 to 800 meters for kids ages 2-12, along with a chance to meet 4-time Olympian **Sheila Taormina**. Also, refreshments and running gear vendors. 8 a.m., *Creekside Intermediate School* (half marathon), 2615 Baker Rd., Dexter; *Rudolf Steiner School* (10-km run & fitness walk), 2775 Newport Rd., & *Forsythe Middle School* (5-km run & fitness walk), 1655 Newport Rd. Entry fees for individuals: \$30 (5- & 10-km) &

\$35 (half marathon) at dexterannarborryun.com by May 30, \$35 (5- & 10-km) & \$40 (half marathon) at the Race Expo. No day-of-race registration. Entry forms available at local sporting goods stores. 663-9740, 487-5616.

24th Annual "Taste of Ann Arbor and the Rest of the World": Main Street Area Association. A chance to savor bite-size tidbits of entrees and desserts from the kitchens of downtown restaurants and cafes. Entertainment at 3 stages. *Main and Liberty stage: Tumbao Bravo* (11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.), a local Cuban jazz quintet led by saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. *The Dave Sharp Quartet* (1:15-2:45 p.m.), a local funk-jazz ensemble led by bassist Sharp. *Chef Chris & the Rump Shakers* (3:30-5 p.m.), a local blues band led by vocalist and blues harpist Chef Chris Sirvinskis. *Main and William stage: big band swing* by the *II-V-I Orchestra* (noon, 2 p.m., & 4 p.m.) and the local doo-wop quartet *The Gel Caps* (1 & 3 p.m.). *Liberty and Fourth stage: Colors the Clown* (11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.). 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Main St. between William and Washington sts. Free admission; food tickets 50¢ each. 668-7112.

***Ya'ssoo Greek Festival: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church.** See 29 Friday. Noon-5 p.m.

***"A Celebration of the Young Child": Rudolf Steiner School.** A program for families with kids ages 2-6 featuring a performance by *Gemini*, the popular local acoustic duo of Laszlo and Sandor Slomovits, who are joined by Sandor's daughter, fiddler Emily Slomovits. Also, circus performances, outdoor play, and family activities. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., *Rudolf Steiner School*, 2775 Newport Rd. Free. 995-4141.

***"Moon Wolf": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon.** Summers-Knoll School head (and local playwright) **Joanna Hastings** reads from her new children's book, which is illustrated by Summers-Knoll elementary students, who are on hand to talk about the experience. Signing. 2 p.m., *Crazy Wisdom*, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

"Vanities": Redbud Productions. See 28 Thursday. 2 p.m.

20th Annual Spring Concert: Measure for Measure. South Lyon High School vocal music director **Steve Lorenz** conducts this lively 90-member local men's chorus in an eclectic program of British songs, Moses Hogan spirituals, Aaron Copland's "Stomp Your Foot," Ave Maria settings, and what an organizer calls "some silliness." 3 p.m., *Hill Auditorium*. Tickets \$15 (students & seniors, \$12) in advance and at the door. 649-SONG.

"Into the Woods": EMU Theatre Department. See 29 Friday. 3 p.m.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 3 Sunday. Today: "The Continuing and Ongoing Adventures of Susie the Time Traveling Sea Slug." 3:30 p.m.

"Dreaming a Place: Environmental Dance": Nightfire Dance Theater. Nightfire director **Irena Nagler** leads a session of environmental dancing in an outdoor setting, accompanied by music and other sound, visual art, and poetry. No experience necessary; children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring drinking water and whatever you need for protection from the elements. 3:30 p.m., *Nichols Arboretum*, meet at the Peony Garden entrance at 1610 Washington Heights. \$5-\$20 sliding scale. 996-1772.

***"Puttin' on the Ritz": Boychoir of Ann Arbor.** Boychoir founder **Tom Strode** directs the Boychoir performing choir (ages 9-14) in a program that features an Irving Berlin medley, some of John Rutter's charming music for young voices, and 3 spirituals artfully arranged by **Rollo Dilworth** and **Ken Berg**, along with **Eleanor Daley's** "The Bridge Builder," **Dan Davison's** "Shout for Joy," and **Z. Randall Stroope's** "Omnia Sol (Let Your Heart Be Staid)." The preparatory choir (ages 8-10) performs "What a Wonderful World," "Food, Glorious Food," and **C.H.H. Parry's** setting of William Blake's "Jerusalem (And did those feet)." 4 p.m., *St. Paul Lutheran Church*, 420 W. Liberty. Free; donations accepted. 663-5377.

***Society of Women Engineers Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of *Silent in the Grave*, Deanna Raybourn's romantic mystery about a Victorian London aristocrat who tries to find her husband's murderer. 6-8 p.m., *Borders cafe*, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

"Sunday Night Live": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. A family-friendly concert featuring local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist **Spencer Michaud** and guest musicians TBA. 7-9 p.m., *Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers*, 2007 S. State. \$5. 945-8602.

Gabriel Bolkosky & Sarah Bob: Kerrytown Concert House. Local violinist **Bolkosky** and acclaimed Boston pianist **Bob** play Beethoven sonatas nos. 1, 5, & 7. Bolkosky has been praised for having "the serenity of a master without a hint of coldness." 7:30 p.m., *KCH*, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10, \$15, & \$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.



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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. It's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main

761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon-Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. **May 1: Nervous but Excited.** Lansing singer-songwriter duo of Kate Peterson and Sarah Cleaver, who combine a down-to-earth point of view, progressive politics, and resonant, ringing vocal harmonies. Opening act is **Breathe Owl Breathe**, the local duo of guitarist and banjoist Micah Middaugh and cellist Andrea Moreno-Beals whose songs are atmospheric, intricately textured instrumental and vocal landscapes. \$15. **May 2: Josh White Jr.** Known for his powerful, intense singing and his virtuosity on 6-string and 12-string guitars, White sings in a more modern style than his famous folksinger father. His blues, gospel, and folk repertoire includes many of his father's best-known songs as well as several upbeat, inspirational originals. \$20. **May 3: John Hammond and Eric Bibb.** Double bill. Long recognized as one of the best interpreters of country blues masters like Robert Johnson and Sleepy John Estes, Hammond extended his range to include one of their principal contemporary heirs on his 2001 CD *Wicked Grin*, a collection of covers of the post-Beat neocountry blues of Tom Waits. His 2007 CD *Push Comes to Shove* is a mix of originals and traditional blues that also includes a hip-hop-tinged blues collaboration with G. Love, who produced the album. Hammond accompanies himself on blues harp and various guitars. "John Hammond plays blues like a locomotive," says *Washington Post* reviewer Eve Zibart, "all rhythmic pumping underneath and steam on top." Bibb is a veteran African American singer-songwriter and finger-picking guitar virtuoso with a powerful, warm voice whose music is rooted in folk, blues, gospel, and soul. \$22.50. **May 4 & 5: Toad the Wet Sprocket.** Veteran alt-pop band led by Glen Phillips, a singer-songwriter known for his guitar-propelled anthems that blend a winning melodicism with an introspective, sometimes wry thoughtfulness. The May 4 show is sold out. \$45. **May 6: Ember Swift.** Award-winning singer-songwriter from Toronto—Joni Mitchell is one of her fans—whom one critic called a "jazz vocalist inhabiting the body of an alternative-folk singer-songwriter." Swift's new project, *Lentic*, offers a "folktronica" sound that features instruments from China, where she has studied and performed, along with electronics. Opening act is **Rachael Sage**, an acclaimed young New York City singer-songwriter and pianist who writes quirkily engaging melodic pop-folk songs exploring a wide range of personal and sociopolitical themes. The music on her new CD *Chandeliers*, recorded with her regular touring band, the Sequins, sets off her baroque piano figures with lush string arrangements, wah-guitar licks, and a heavy dose of improvisation. \$15. **May 7: "For Pete's Sake: A Pete Seeger Birthday Tribute."** A celebration of the folk legend's 90th birthday features in-the-round performances by an all-star lineup of local and area singer-songwriters, including **Chris Buhalis**, **Kitty Donohoe**, **Dick Siegel**, **Paul Tinkerhess**, **Matt Watroba**, and the singer-songwriter duos **Mustard's Retreat** and **Gemini**. A benefit for the Ark. \$10. **May 8: "The Doyle & Debbie Show."** The duo of Bruce Arntson and Jenny Littleton has developed a rabid cult following in Nashville over the past year and a half for their weekly performances of this parodic revue, a collection of original songs embedded in a wickedly funny script affectionately lampooning country music's iconic duos and the battle of the sexes bubbling under the surface of their music. \$20. **May 9: Trina Hamlin.** Minneapolis-based singer-songwriter known for her pure, powerful voice and for her absorption of a variety of musical styles, from blues and R&B to country. *Performing Songwriter* has praised her music for its "exhilarating rawness and sheer grooving rush." \$15. **May 10:**

The Pussy Pirates

Fast and furious

The Pussy Pirates: four brilliant, beautiful women and one male drummer who spit rapid-fire outraged political post-punk songs. They're too young to remember the women's movement of the sixties, but it's embedded in their genes—the collective body memory of every frustrated "housewife" who became a lesbian or artist or activist or lawyer—or all of the above—and said "Screw You!"

Deceptively tiny Gabriela came up with the Pussy Pirates name in a moment of spontaneous persuasion. She was on the phone with Jessica, working her, trying to bring her on board for an all-female project. "Through the window I could see a pirate flag hanging on my porch," she tells me backstage before they perform, "So I said to her, 'We'll call it the Pussy Pirates!'" She's wearing a fake Indian war bonnet and little white dress. Tattoos run along both of her muscular arms.

Jessica nods in agreement and finishes drawing a crazy-clown smile on her face with red, red lipstick. It somehow matches her pink tutu and pigtails. Aaron, the drummer, walks by wearing a black miniskirt with white polka dots and a sleeveless tuxedo shirt that appears to be blood-splattered.

Once they're onstage, Laura (guitars, vocals) and Karen (bass, vocals) flank Gabriela and Jessica, who play horns and trade off lead vocals in the middle. Calling what this band does on stage "high energy" is the understatement of the year. Gabriela stiffens her entire body and punches the air as she sings, every so often trading off her alto sax for a trumpet. Jessica jogs in place with her knees sternum



high for a good hour, playing tenor sax and wearing that whacked-out clown smile.

The music is ska-tinged, the lyrics fast and furious. Jessica and Gabriela sing songs like "Burning Bush" and "Gee I'd Hate to See You Choke on That Tofu, You Slut." They propel their staccato rants over the crowd with sheer willpower and crazed playing. It's like extreme alligator wrestling. With some razor blades thrown in. Take a look at this, from "Guantanamoierda":

*Pants down, hands together.
Blindfold, ankles tied.
Sleep all day, up all night.
Wanna hold your body tight in my two-foot two-foot cement cell.
Forty hours standing is a little bit like hell.*

post punk

When I was talking to them, Karen, the bassist, commented, "Maybe we should change our name."

"What's wrong with the Pussy Pirates?" someone asked.

"Oh, nothing," Karen says. "Until you call your grandma and she asks, 'Why'd ya quit college?' and you can't really say, 'the Pussy Pirates.'"

I dunno, Karen. I bet grandma's seen more than you might think. Radical women have been around for a long, long time.

The Pussy Pirates are one of the opening acts for the veteran London punk band the Vibrators at the Blind Pig Wednesday, May 6.

—Charmie Gholson

Kitty Donohoe. Irish American roots-music singer-songwriter from Detroit who specializes in story songs. In its review of her latest CD, *Northern Border, Sing Out!* calls her "one of the rare singer-songwriters to sensuously weave words and melody into a strong and mesmerizing fabric." She is accompanied tonight by local fiddle, guitar, and mandolin virtuoso **David Mosher**. \$15. **May 12: Asleep at the Wheel.** Founded in the early 70s by singer-guitarist Ray Benson, this celebrated Austin-based western swing revivalist band has become a pivotal country music institution. Its 1997 CD *Tribute to the Music of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys* features guest vocals by everyone from Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard to Dolly Parton and Garth Brooks, and its new CD *Willie and the Wheel* is an album-length collaboration with Nelson. \$30. **May 13 & 14: Arlo Guthrie.** The son of American folk music pioneer Woody Guthrie, Arlo first established his own identity—an indelible blend of beguiling humor and acerbic political wit—in the late 60s with his epic talking ballad, "Alice's Restaurant." He's a first-class songwriter and a captivating interpreter of contemporary tunes by the likes of Steve Goodman and Bob Dylan, as well as traditional songs, ballads, and stories. He is joined tonight by his son, keyboardist **Abe Guthrie**, and **The Burns Sisters**, an acoustic folk-rock vocal trio from Ithaca, New York, known for what one reviewer calls their "gorgeous Everlys-in-triplicate voices." Arlo's Ark shows usually sell out very quickly. \$47.50. **May 15: Seth Bernard & Daisy May Erlewine.** Singer-songwriter duo with mid-Michigan roots. Bernard is a local singer-songwriter, originally from Lake City, Michigan, who writes clever, funny, and candidly insightful folk-, rock-, and jazz-based songs about his life. He has released a CD, *Hello Fellow Travelers*. Daisy May is the stage name of May Erlewine, a big-voiced singer-songwriter from Big

Rapids who writes thoughtful, richly emotional country-flavored songs. She recently released her 2nd CD, *Sleepless*. **May 16: Roger Clyne & the Peacemakers.** Local debut of this widely heralded Arizona country-rock band that the *Colorado Daily* describes as a "kickass blend of Southwest rock, punk, and twang." The songs on its new CD *Americano!* cover a range of subjects from war, immigration, and sprawl to the relative merits of whiskey and tequila. Opening act is **Dead Rock West**, a classy postpunk country-rock band from California. \$17.50. **May 17: James Keelaghan.** An evocative, passionate vocalist who sings in a deep, resonating baritone, Keelaghan is a Canadian singer-songwriter who has been compared favorably to Stan Rogers and John Gorka. He's best known for the old-style ballad "Jenny Bryce" and other original ballads and lyrical songs on a wide range of historical themes, from Japanese Canadians to the evacuation of Dunkirk to Chief Tecumseh. \$15. **May 18: Sunkwa.** Ypsilanti-based ensemble led by percussionist Kofi Ameyaw that performs high-energy, complex Ghanaian drum and dance, with elements of world music. \$13.50. **May 19: The Abrams Brothers.** See review, p. 63. Young bluegrass-based country trio from Kingston, Ontario. Their CD *Blue on Brown* is a seductive collection of Bob Dylan and Arlo Guthrie covers. \$15. **May 20: "Open Stage Showcase."** Features 2 of the most popular performers at the Ark's Open Stage nights, country singer-songwriter **Bill Edwards**, 1989 winner of the *Billboard* Country Songwriting Contest, and singer-songwriter and Christian motivational speaker **Maureen Miles**, author of the musical plays *Prodigal* and *The Story of Job*. \$10. **May 21: Luke Sayers & the Last to Know.** The former bassist for the Ferndale folk-rock band Tangerine Trousers, Sayers has emerged in his own right as a talented singer-songwriter whose music draws on blues, jazz,

country, and folk to create contemporary songs with a sharp emotional bite. His band, the Last to Know, is a quartet that includes other members of the Trousers, and he has a new CD, *Radio Flower*, that features new originals and a great cover of Johnny Cash's "Worried Man." Opening act is **Charlene Kaye**, a smoky-voiced local singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who plays liting, orchestral pop-folk a la Feist. \$12.50. **May 22: Ramblin' Jack Elliott.** The foremost interpreter of Woody Guthrie and the most imitated folk-style singer and guitarist of the 60s and 70s, Elliott is the original bohemian singing cowboy. His vast repertoire includes songs of nearly every American folk style and era, and his singing is characterized by a rare blending of seasoned sureness and casual freshness. Elliott's shows are usually enlivened with humorous observations and offbeat storytelling, and when he's on, are tremendously exciting. **May 26: Caravan of Thieves.** Gypsy-flavored acoustic swing by this Bridgeport, CT, quartet led by the husband-and-wife duo of Fuzz and Carrie Sangiovanni. FREE. **May 27: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). 7:30–10 p.m. **May 29: Bill Bynum & Co.** Downriver singer-songwriter and guitarist whose bluegrass-based songs also draw on old-time, early country, gospel, and contemporary folk music. His band includes fiddler Mary Seelhorst, dobro player Dave Keeney, and bassist Chuck Anderson. \$13.50. **May 30: Siegel-Schwall Band.** Legendary Chicago blues band whose country-folk flavored brand of Southside blues helped spark the blues revival of the 60s and early 70s. Led by harmonica genius Corky Siegel and guitarist Jim Schwall, the current lineup also includes former Lit-

Music at Nightspots *continued*

the Walter and Howlin' Wolf drummer Sam Lay and bassist Rollo Bradford. The band has a new Alligator CD, *Flash Forward*. **May 31: Junior Brown.** This acclaimed honky-tonk singer-songwriter from Austin, Texas, plays 6-string and steel guitar as well as his own guitar hybrid, the "guit-steel." A longtime cult favorite who first gained the attention of mainstream country fans with his truly hilarious 1996 novelty hit "My Wife Thinks You're Dead," Brown sings in a pleasantly resonant baritone that suggests a somewhat grittier and slier Ernest Tubbs, and his original songs are known for a lyrical wit and cleverness that's almost as dazzling as his guitar work. Critic Paul Davies calls Brown's music a "riveting quirky cocktail rattled out on the frenetic fingerpicking steel and acoustic guitar and the tumbleweed and tombstone vocals." Voted #1 House Rocker in a *Guitar Player* readers poll, he's a big local favorite. \$25.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington 214-9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7-11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **May 23: Charlie Slick.** Local Gary Numan-inspired electro-pop singer-songwriter. Opening act is **Lightning Love**, a local keyboard-driven minimalist pop trio.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main 222-0400

This seafood and martini bar features live music Mon. & Wed., 6:30-9:30 p.m., & DJ Sun., 9 p.m.-midnight. No cover, no dancing. **May 6: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country by the Detroit-area duo of Detroit Music Award-winning singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings. **May 13: Chris Genteel & Gregg Leonard.** Rock and soul covers and originals by this local duo. **May 20: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter who's been described as a hybrid of Bono and Bruce Springsteen. **May 27: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Elbow Room.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. 996-8555

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7-10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets. **Every Tues. (except May 5): "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands each week. **May 1: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** The local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells spin classic soul records. **May 2: Mahoney.** Local minimalist acoustic garage rock duo. Opening acts are the local psychedelic-blues garage trio **Sik Sik Nation**, the melodic Ypsilanti emcore band **Two Roads to Mexico**, and the Brooklyn, New York, experimental psychedelic rock band **Wicked Hemlocks**. **May 4: James Morrison.** Talented young English pop-rock singer-songwriter and guitarist best known for his duet recording of his "Broken Strings" with Nelly Furtado. Opening act is **Diane Birch**, an acclaimed New York pop-rock singer-songwriter and pianist with a beguiling, soulful voice who just released her debut CD, *Bible Belt*. Advance tickets: \$20. 8 p.m.-midnight. **May 5: Del the Funky Homosapien.** Veteran alternative hip-hop MC from Oakland, CA. Opening acts are San Francisco turntablist **Mike Relm**, Berkeley (CA) hip-hop MC **Bukue One**, and the Santa Cruz hip-hop/funk ensemble **Serendipity Project**. Advance tickets: \$20. **May 6: The Vibrators.** Veteran London punk band that first formed in 1976. Opening acts are country-punk one-man band (and former Legendary Shack Shakers guitarist) **Joe Buck Yourself**, punk-rock singer-songwriter **Captain Sean Doe**, the Detroit garage-punk surf band **Amino Acids**, the local all-female postpunk avant-jazz quintet **The Pussy Pirates** (see review, p. 76), and the local spazz-rock band **Bantha Fodder**. **May 7: Scared to Death.** Ypsilanti rock band. Opening acts are the local rock bands **Casanova Frankenstein**, **Dead Reagan**, and **Starlight Special**, and local hip-hop MC **Nicki P.** **May 8: "70s Porn Party."** Dress-up dance party with DJs. **May 9:**

Electric Six. Detroit guitar-based rock quintet. Opening acts are **Living Things**, a St. Louis punk-rock quartet, and **Millions of Brazilians**, a Taylor postpunk pop-rock trio. **May 13: Chain Fight.** Minneapolis punk-metal band. Opening acts are Ypsilanti rock bands **Sugar Coats** and **Bad Party** and the Ypsilanti country-rock band **The Vulture Circle**. **May 14: Jamie Register Project.** Motownesque soul music by a band led by local singer-bassist Register. Opening act is **Adam's Castle**, a local indie rock band. **May 15: Tally Hall.** All ages admitted. Nationally acclaimed pop-rock quintet of U-M grads whose music draws on a wide range of influences from Bach and the Beatles to Motown and Eminem. 8 p.m.-midnight. **May 16: Ghostlady.** Local indie pop-rock male-female duo. Opening acts are the Chicago pop-rock trio **Brother Truck**, the Grand Rapids ambient folk-rock quartet **Fields of Industry**, and Chicago folk-rock singer-songwriter **Andy Wagner**. **May 20: The Electromags.** Ypsilanti band, formerly known as the 77s, that plays loud, raucous, melodic, bluesy, surf-guitar rockabilly. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti rock bands **Err, North?**, and **Wolff**. **May 21: Stinking Lizaveta.** Rhythmic, moody, angular instrumental art-rock by this Philadelphia power trio that's been compared both to King Crimson and Black Flag. Opening acts are **Darsombra**, a one-man band from Baltimore who specializes in experimental classical-psychedelic soundscapes, along with the Ferndale noise-metal band **Ganon**, and **A Working Model**, a local progressive rock quartet whose influences range from King Crimson to Tool. **May 22: The Juliets.** New local pop-rock trio. Opening acts TBA. **May 23: Koffin Kats.** Detroit-area psychobilly punk band. Opening act is **The Quakes**, a veteran psychobilly trio from Buffalo. **May 27: TBA.** **May 28: The New Green.** See Elbow Room. Opening acts TBA. **May 29 (7-9 p.m.): Chris Bathgate.** All ages admitted. Local singer-songwriter who writes heartfelt, poetic story songs in a variety of moods. **May 28: Athletic Mike League.** Local hip-hop collective. Opening acts are local hip-hop DJ **DJ Graffiti** and the local hip-hop collective **Tree City**. **May 30: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **May 31: Charles Trees.** Dance music spun by this local DJ. No cover.

The Circus

210 S. First St. 913-8890

This 2nd-floor downtown club features live music on Wed. & Thurs., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows in the street-level **Millennium Club** or basement **Cavern Club**, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). Age 21 & older admitted. **Every Thurs.: "Funk & Jazz Night."** Open mike hosted by members of **The Macpodz**. **May 6: Gas for Less.** Local alt-country honky-tonk and rockabilly band led by singer-songwriter (and former Lucky Haskins frontman) Ryan Racine. **May 9: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Dearborn. Dancing. In the Cavern Club. **May 13: Mountain Sprout.** Psychobilly-bluegrass quartet from Eureka Springs, Arkansas. **May 20: Dave Boutette & Friends.** Local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. He's joined tonight by guest musicians TBA. **May 27: Rootstand.** Local band whose music blends bluegrass, blues, reggae, and Celtic folk idioms and instrumentation. **May 30: Killer Flamingos.** See above.

Club Above

215 N. Main 663-7758

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant, which unveils a new sound system on May 16, features live music Sat., 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., and live happy hour bands on Fri., 6:15-8:30 p.m. Also, DJ on Fri. and karaoke on Wed. & Thurs., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & over only unless otherwise noted. **May 1 (6:15-8:30 p.m.): FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by Kingpins bassist Randy Tessier and featuring former Map of the World vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis, Steve Earle, and U2. The band's 4-song minidisk *Clean House* includes 2 originals, a cover of Stephen Stills's 1967 protest classic "For What It's Worth," and an original setting of Auden's 1939 poem "Refugee Song." **May 2: Long Whisker.** Ypsilanti indie rock band. Opening acts are **Boywife**, a punk-rock band from Ypsilanti

whose music draws on Chinese pop, Japanese classical music, and Mexican regional music, along with the local indie folk-pop band **Nathan K**, and the Flint folk-rock band **Morseville Bridge**. **May 8 (6:15-8:30 p.m.): Sounds of the Czars.** Local Tiki-flavored surf-rock lounge quartet. **May 9: TBA.** **May 15 (6:15-8:30 p.m.): Khalid Hanifi.** Beatlesque postpunk powerpop by a quintet led by veteran local singer-songwriter Hanifi and featuring guitar wiz George Bedard. **May 16: Question Mark & the Mysterians.** Rare chance to see this veteran garage band from Saginaw that's best known for "96 Tears," one of the most durably popular dance-party songs of the past 50 years. Rock critic Dave Marsh calls their debut LP "the perfect Tex-Mex garage punk album of the Sixties." Opening acts are the grunge-inflected Detroit rock 'n' roll band **The Ruiners**, the Detroit-area pop-rock band **Silverghost**, and the local indie rock quartet **Suarez**. **May 22 (6:15-8:30 p.m.): Deep Space Six.** Popular local Grateful Dead cover band. **May 23: Carolyn Striho.** Veteran Detroit pop-punk singer-songwriter, a former guitarist in Patti Smith's band. Opening acts are **New Granada**, a punk trio, and **The Ultrasounds**, a local futuristic retro-rock trio. **May 29 (6:15-8:30 p.m.): Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. The band's guiding presence seems to be Elvis—including both large chunks of his repertoire and his attitude that any music he did suited him just because he did it. The band also includes guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. **May 30: "Lucky Monkey Night."** Headliner is **60 Second Crush**, a Detroit Music Award-winning hard-rock band led by Motordolls bassist Dana Forrester. Opening acts are **Mound Road Engine**, a Detroit metal-hardcore quartet with a female vocalist, and **The Dead Ringers**, a local punk band.

Common Cup

1511 Washtenaw 327-6914

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment Fri., 8-9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **May 1: Deb Mantel & Jennifer Jones.** Acoustic Christian music duo.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main 665-2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30-10 p.m. and Thurs. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Every Thurs.: Jerry Sprague Band.** Roots-rock band led by veteran local singer-guitarist Sprague. **Every Fri.: DJ Big Daddie.** **May 2: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by Jerry Sprague's 2 sons. **May 9: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See Goodnite Gracie. **May 16: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **May 23: Kris K Trio.** Local trio led by singer-guitarist Kris Kurzawa that plays jazz, soul, and avant-funk covers and originals. **May 30: Toppermost.** Local blues-rock quartet.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main 665-9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30-10:30 p.m. **May 1: Partly Brothers.** Detroit-area acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter duo. **May 2: TBA.** **May 8: Patrick Herek.** Chicago-based folk-rock singer-songwriter and pianist whose influences range from David Bowie and Jeff Buckley to Ben Folds. **May 9: Rock Paper Scissors.** The local duo of Black Train singer-guitarist Vicki Dischler and cellist Tom Lyon performs a varied array of covers by the likes of Lucinda Williams, Son Volt, the Rolling Stones, and Robyn Hitchcock. **May 15: Uncle Jimima.** Indie rock singer-songwriter from Gainesville (FL) with an acclaimed debut CD *So Heavy for Something So Empty*. **May 16: Tim Monger.** High lonesome originals by this engaging singer-songwriter-guitarist from the Great Lakes Myth Society. **May 22: The Bearded Ladies.** Local Americana bluegrass quartet. **May 23: Bone Orchard Revival.** Local alt-country duo of Jeni Lee Richey and Adam Arscott. Open-



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ing acts are **Silvermine Pictures**, a folk-rock string duo, and **Mike Galbraith**, a Detroit pop-folk singer-songwriter. **May 29: John Churchville & Meeta Banerjee**. North Indian classical music by tabla player Churchville and sitarist Banerjee. **May 30: Sam Corbin**. Lansing pop-folk singer-songwriter whose influences range from Leonard Cohen to Bob Dylan.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. 827-2737

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **May 31: II-V-I Orchestra**. Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. 6:30-9 p.m.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti 657-2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features live music Thurs. & occasional other nights, 9-11 p.m. or later. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. **May 9: American Migration Patterns**. Experimental postpunk rock band. Opening acts are **Codek Empire**, an experimental ambient band, and **Amoeba Kids** singer-songwriter and guitarist **Craig Johnson**. **May 23: Sari Brown**. Local singer-songwriter who writes reverent yet unconventional spirituals, late-night traveling songs, and folk-style story songs with poetic lyrics and a strong political sensibility. Opening acts are **Charlene Kaye**, a local folk-rock chamber ensemble led by singer-songwriter Kaye, and **Evan Bicker Williams**, a local singer-songwriter. **May 30: Unicorn Basement**. Weird spazz-pop band from Minnesota. Opening acts are **Pink Octopus**, a local trash-pedal-noise duo, and **"Patrick's Weird Beard Goes Wandering"**, a puppet show by local performance artist Patrick Elkins.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti 483-6374

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon.-Thurs., 9 p.m.-1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional Sun., 8 p.m.-midnight. No cover (\$5 suggested donation), dancing. **Every Sun.** (except May 3): **Todd Osborne**. Detroit-area electronic musician. **Every Thurs.: "Mofo Karaoke."** With "the standard karaoke playlist crap plus 2,500+ obscure and awesome songs." **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi**. Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **May 1: Shooting Stars**. Ypsilanti hip-hop collective. Opening acts are **Charlie Slick** (see B-Side) and **Kinetic Stereokids**, an experimental Flint space-pop band. **May 2: The New Green**. Local pop-folk octet led by singer-songwriter Steven Clausnitzer that's been compared to the Beatles, Wilco, and Sufjan Stevens. Opening act is **The Ultrasonics** (see Club Above) and **Philo-San**, a Trenton reggae-rockabilly trio. **May 3: Crude**. Japanese hardcore band. Opening acts are the Texas thrash band **Unit 21**, the local metal band **Night-bringer**, and the Detroit metal band **I Am Cursed**. 8 p.m.-2 a.m. **May 5: "Tiki Tuesday."** The Elbow Room Tiki Tuesday band plays surf music and various exotica. Also, performance by the belly dancer **Aurora** and magician **Scarboni**. **May 6: Frontier Ruckus**. Experimental bluegrass sextet. Opening acts are **Paleface**, a Brooklyn (NY) folk-rock duo, and **Chad Williams & the Lonesome Plowboys**, a twangy country-folk ensemble led by local singer-songwriter Williams. **May 8: Cetan Clawson Revolution**. Saline rock 'n' roll band. Opening acts are **Tone and Niche**, a Detroit indie pop-rock quintet fronted by singer-guitarist Anthony Retka and singer-violinist Nicole Varga, along with local country-folk singer-songwriter **Mike Boyd** and Detroit pop-rock singer-songwriter **Chris Degnor**. **May 9: Black Jake & the Carnies**. Ypsilanti octet that calls its energetic, foot-stomping blend of punk, old-time music, and bluegrass "crabgrass." Opening acts are **Flatfoot**, a Lansing roots-rock band, and **The B-Sharps**, a Fort Wayne big-beat rock quintet. **May 12: "Direct Hits Mod Club."** DJ collective that plays vintage British pop and soul. **May 13: The Cameo In**. Detroit pop-punk quartet. Opening acts are **We're All Broken**, a New Jersey punk-rock band, and **Living Like Ghosts**, a Detroit pop-punk quintet. **May 15: Bloodlined Calligraphy**. Ypsilanti hardcore thrash band. Opening acts are the Monroe grindcore quartet **Fetuseater**, the Ypsilanti experimental hardcore quartet **The Sleep of Reason**, and the Belleville progressive metal band **Oath of Blood**. **May 16: Spag Burlesque**. Detroit troupe with a variety of burlesque and sideshow acts, along with punk glam records by **DJ Spag**. Opening acts are

DJ Kurt as **The Human Fly** and the Toledo troupe **Mesmeric Bellydance**. **May 19: "The Cycle."** DJs Blakguts and Joe Vargas spin funk, soul, and indie dance records. **May 20: JT Royster**. Brighton pop-folk singer-songwriter. Opening acts are the Detroit electro-funk band **Selectronics** and singer-songwriters **Lauren Deming**, **Jon Leaf**, **Braed Mape-Brown**, **Joe Hertler**, and **Jeff Pianki**. **May 22: The Blue Rubys**. Classy local almost-all-female country-rock quintet. Opening acts are **Electromags** (see Blind Pig) and **Bitter Inks**, an Ypsilanti acoustic pop-rock trio. **May 23: Ace King Ape**. Ypsilanti hip-hop MC. **May 24: Todd Osborne**. See above. **May 26: "Tuesday Respite."** DJs Damon P and Brad Hicks play ambient, psychedelic, and shoegazer music. **May 27: Branch Out Collective**. Local hip-hop collective. **May 29: Gepetto Files**. Idiosyncratic local marionette troupe that specializes in off-the-wall, postpunk explorations of American cultural archetypes that are simultaneously weird, hilarious, provocative, sophomoric, and haunting. Opening acts are **Counter Cosby**, a local band that plays sarcastic, goofy, prog-rock metal, and **Invader**, an Ypsilanti hardcore band. **May 30: Tickled Fancy Burlesque Co.** Popular local postpunk burlesque troupe.

The Firefly Club

637 S. Main 665-9090

Jazz and blues club, named Best Metro Detroit Jazz Club by the *Detroit Free Press*. Live jazz Mon., 8 p.m.-midnight; occasional Tues., 8-10 p.m.; occasional Wed., times TBA; Thurs., 8-11 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; and Sun., 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Also, happy-hour music Thurs., 4-7 p.m., and Fri. & Sun., 5-8 p.m. Sun. jazz brunch, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Every Fri.** (5-8 p.m.): **Easy Street Swingtet**. Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klinger. **Every Sun.** (5-8 p.m.): **Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings**. This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Sun.: "Elevation."** Funk and hip-hop by DJ Graffiti and other DJs TBA. Also, an open mike session. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra**. Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Susan Chastain. **Every Thurs.: Los Gatos**. Mambo and cha-cha by this local Latin jazz band led by drummer Pete Siers that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 1950s mambo craze. Preceded at 7 p.m. by Latin dance lessons (\$5 includes cover for the band). 8-11 p.m. **May 1: Thonet Davis**. Soulful, rocking Detroit-style R&B by a band led by Davis, a powerful, Etta James-style vocalist. **May 2: TBA**. **May 8: Patti Wicks**. Mainstream jazz by a trio led by this stylish New York singer-pianist. "What you hear after the opening bars of Ray Noble's 'Love Locked Out' is a deep resonant alto peppered with a sensual huskiness that is not in the least bit fuzzy or ill-defined," says *All About Jazz* critic Michael Bailey in his review of Wicks's 2005 ballad collection *Love Locked Out*. **May 9: "Firefly 9th Birthday Party."** Performers TBA. **May 15: Judy Wexler**. Acclaimed young L.A. jazz vocalist. **May 16: Claudia Schmidt**. A longtime local favorite with both folk and jazz audiences, Schmidt is a Traverse City vocalist known for her strikingly luminous, warmly ingratiating voice. Tonight she performs blues and jazz standards and originals. **May 22 & 23: Sheila Jordan**. See review, p. 65. Widely acclaimed jazz singer who began her career in the early '50s singing versions of Charlie Parker's solos with a Detroit vocal trio. Her distinctive vocal style, which has always taken its cues from instrumentalists, features frequent and unexpected changes of pitch and other unusual features. **May 29 & 30: TBA**.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron 752-5740

Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge (which features DJs with dancing, Thurs.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m.). Live music Wed.-Sat., 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. Also, karaoke on Tues. Cover Thurs.-Sat. only, no dancing. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Live blues & jazz TBA**. **May 1: First Flight**. New local jazz-funk band led by bassist Eileen Bristol. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a poetry reading. **May 2: Michael May & the Messarounds**. Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **May 8: Noteworthy**. Local funk-soul band. **May 9: Grievous Angel**. Detroit-area country-rock band that covers everyone

from Hank Williams to the Grateful Dead and Metallica. **May 15: First Flight**. See above. **May 16 & 22: Lester Blues**. Local guitar-based blues band. **May 23: Michael May & the Messarounds**. See above. **May 29: Dave Sharp Quartet**. Straight-ahead jazz by this local quartet led by bassist Sharp. **May 30: Lester Blues**. See above.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. 769-9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.-midnight. Cover, dancing. **May 1: The Greg Nagy Band**. Blues band from Grand Blanc led by Root Doctor guitarist Nagy. **May 2: Bull Halsey**. Chelsea garage blues band. **May 8: Luther "Badman" Keith Blues Band**. R&B-inflected Detroit blues band led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Keith. **May 9: Chef Chris & the Rump Shakers**. Blues quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist Chef Chris Sirvinskis. **May 15: Chris Canas & the Blues Revolution**. Detroit blues band fronted by Canas, a young blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist. **May 16: Steve Nardella Rock 'n' Roll Trio**. Ann Arbor's most passionate and compelling roots-rockers performs fiercely cathartic, blues-drenched reworkings of rock 'n' roll and rockabilly classics and obscure gems, along with some authentic Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker blues. **May 22: Michael May & the Messarounds**. See Goodnite Gracie. **May 23: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train**. Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **May 24: Detroit Blues Society Fund-Raiser**. Headliner is **Robert Noll Blues Mission**, a blues and blues-rock band led by popular veteran Detroit singer-guitarist Noll. With several other Detroit-area blues bands, including the **Christy Howard Band**, the **Broken Arrow Blues Band**, **Muledrive**, **Lester Blues**, and **Howard Glazer & the EL-34s**. 6 p.m.-midnight. **May 29: "Steve Ferguson Benefit."** An all-star lineup of local blues and rock musicians to raise money for Ferguson, the cofounder of the legendary NRBQ who also released a couple of solo CDs on the local Schoolkids label in the '90s. Performers are singer-guitarist **Steve Nardella**, guitar wiz **George Bedard**, singer-guitarist **Dave Steel** and blues harpist **Dave Morris** of Big Dave & the Ultrasonics, and Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band and Nite Flight guitarist **Steve Springer**. The **Carpenter Ants**, a roots-music ensemble led by *Mountain Stage* radio show house guitarist **Michael Lipton**, serves as house band for the evening. 6:30-11 p.m. **May 30: Drivin' Sideways**. See Club Above.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. 665-3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.-Thurs., 8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, solo pianists Tues.-Sun., 6-8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Monday Groove."** With DJ Mechial White. 7 p.m.-midnight. **May 1 & 2: Bugs Beddow Band**. Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow. **May 5-7: Justine Blazer**. Acoustic duo led by this Detroit country-rock singer-songwriter. **May 8: Joy Ride**. Detroit dance band. **May 9: Shop Ratz**. Classic rock trio from Flat Rock. **May 12-14: Identical Strangers**. Classic rock by the Windsor duo of vocalist Danielle Samson and guitarist Scott Giles. **May 15: 50 Amp Fuse**. 70s and 80s classic rock by this very popular Detroit band. **May 16: Remedy**. Detroit dance band. **May 19-23: Soulstice**. Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing. **May 26-28: Dave Hamilton Band**. Pop dance band led by saxophonist Hamilton. **May 29 & 30: Ultraviolet**. Detroit band that plays 70s & 80s rock hits.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main 222-0202

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, DJs on Fri. & Sat. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Lucas Paul Band**. Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty 994-5436

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., and live broadcast of the 89X *Homeboy Show* with live music, Sundays through May 17, 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Cover, dancing. **May 3: Evans Blue**. Popular Toronto metal-rock band. Opening acts are

the Fort Wayne alternative rock band **Rains**, the Detroit rock band **Seasons of Eden**, and the Detroit classic rock band **Pillar of Autumn**. **May 10: Paradime**. Popular Detroit hip-hop ensemble. Opening acts are **King Jazzy**, a Detroit MC whose music blends hip-hop with elements of reggae and electronica, and **MicLordz & Sauce Funky**, a Windsor funk-rock quintet. **May 17: Mayer Hawthorne & the County**. L.A. retro-soul band led by Ann Arbor native Hawthorne.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **May 3: Bowditch Brothers**. Local country trio led by singer-guitarist Mike Smith and featuring 2 other members of the Cadillac Cowboys, bassist Gary Munce and pianist and mandolinist Kelly Schmidt. **May 10: Danny Kline**. Local alt-country singer-songwriter and guitarist. **May 17: Steve Newhouse & the Nuke-a-billies**. Veteran local classic country and country-rock band led by singer-guitarist Newhouse. With guitarist Kevin Brown, bassist Chris Goerke, and drummer Eric Nyhuis. **May 24: TBA**. **May 31: Jim Roll**. Nationally prominent local singer-songwriter known for his barbed alt-country-flavored folk-rock ballads and love songs.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662-8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues., 7:30-9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover by donation, no dancing. **May 2: Beatnik Hippies**. Local classic rock band. 8-10 p.m. **May 5: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **May 12: "Anything Goes Open Stage & Song Circle."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **May 26: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Mon., Thurs. & Fri. 8 p.m.-midnight, Tues. 7-11 p.m., Wed. 9 p.m.-midnight, & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Mon.: Acoustic Open Mike**. All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by Mickey Richard and Frank L. Wright. **Every Tues.: The Witch Doctors**. This local blues and R&B band led by singer-guitarist Thayrone, best known as the host of the nationally syndicated *Bone Conduction Music Show*, plays what Thayrone calls "way-strong mojo, ritualistic barroom blues healing." **Every Wed.: "Jazz Night."** Jam session with several bands and soloists. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike**. Hosted by **The Martindales**, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Every Fri.: John Latini & Friends**. Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter, who is joined by different guest musicians TBA each week. **May 2** (6-8 p.m.): **Ann Arbor Music Center Rock Band**. Adult student musicians perform classic and modern rock covers. **May 2: TBA**. **May 9: Lonesome County**. Hard-driving traditional bluegrass by this Michigan quintet, led by singer-guitarist Chad Jeremy, that won the 2006 Renfro Valley Bluegrass Talent Contest. With mandolinist Kevin Frank, banjoist Lee Kaufmann, fiddler Marty Somberg, and bassist Paul Shapiro. **May 16: The Sugar People**. Local experimental multimedia pop-soul funk band. **May 23: Dave Nefesh**. Emotional, thought-provoking folk-rock by this Royal Oak singer-songwriter. **May 30** (6-8 p.m.): **Ann Arbor Music Center Blues Band**. Adult student musicians perform postwar blues covers. **May 30: Tracy Mack & the Magic Land Band**. Local folk-rock and blues-rock band led by singer-songwriter Mack.

Zingerman's Roadhouse

2501 Jackson 663-F00D

This west-side restaurant presents live music on its outdoor patio on Wed., 5-8 p.m. No cover, dancing. **May 20: Jon Milan & the Brake-men**. Rootsy folk-rock by this Detroit band led by singer-songwriter Milan. **May 27: Treetown Swingtet**. Local trio that plays a wide range of swing music, from Cole Porter to Django Reinhardt. Members are acoustic guitarist Brian Delaney, fiddler Paul Winder, and singer-guitarist Myron Grant, who also plays harp and bones.

Classifieds & Personals

Personals Key

A=Asian	J=Jewish
B=Black	L=Letters
C=Christian	LTR=Long Term Relationship
D=Divorced	
F=Female	M=Male
G=Gay	ND=Nondrinker
H=Hispanic	NS=Non smoker
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate	P=Phone Calls
ISO=In Search Of	P=Professional
	S=Single
	W=White

Women Seeking Men

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
\$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Bright, slim, caring SWPF ISO true gentleman for friendship, maybe more. RSVP soon. 57864

Fit, fashionable blond, 52, NS, seeks confident, funny guy for political yapping, film watching, forest walks. 57854

Men Seeking Women

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
\$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

SWM, 59, gray teddy bear, seeks a honey for chess, jazz, BBQs, and more. 57754

DWM, 70 years young, 195 lbs., 5'11", attractive, home-centered. Enjoys music, movies, travel. ISO slender A, H, or WF for LTR. 56894

General Personals

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

Employment

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

Earn extra income with your baby on your lap. Contact Pam at: my.sunrider.com/thebestyou/.

Entertainment

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

★ CLASSICAL HARP MUSIC ★
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Live harp music for any occasion. Harp doctorate, U-M. Flute and harp duo also available. Laurel, 663-9292/663-0087.

TERRABELLA TRIO
Elegant music featuring flute, violin, and cello. Call (734) 996-0303.

Lessons & Workshops

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

PIANO LESSONS, AGE 5 & UP
Prof. piano teacher, U-M Music School grad. Member of Piano Teachers Guild. Convenient west-side location. Mary Ann McCulloch, (734) 604-0942. Email mc-pianolady@aol.com.

Piano and Guitar Lessons. Double degreed music teacher. Pittsfield Township. (734) 646-2740.

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Letter responses are forwarded for \$3 per letter. Put each letter in its own envelope with the box number and sufficient first-class postage on the front. Do not put your return address on the individual envelopes, but be sure to include your contact information inside the letter if you wish to receive a reply. Mail all response letters (in a larger envelope) to the Ann Arbor Observer; include a check for \$3 per response made payable to: Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

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• Place your personals ad through www.arborlist.com, follow the directions to place your ad in print in the Observer, receive the first 3 lines of your personals ad for FREE.

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• Email: classifieds@arborweb.com or Fax: (734) 769-3375

• Mail or walk-in: 201 Catherine Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Observer Personals Ads are also posted online at:

www.arborlist.com—totally free classifieds, and

www.arborweb.com—Ann Arbor online

Please call with any questions or comments: (734) 769-3175

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MANDALA ART FORMS

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You Can Sing!

Holistic singing lessons. Strengthen voice, gain confidence. All levels and styles welcome. Jesse Richards, N.A.T.S. (734) 995-2972 www.holisticsinging.net

Intro. Meditation Course, 5 Thurs. eves., 6:30-8:30, starts May 28. **1-Day Retreat**, Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., May 2. **Yoga Classes: Yoga I**, 6 Tues. eves., 6:30-8, starts May 26. **Yoga II**, 6 Tues. or Thurs. eves., 6:30-8, starts May 28. **Yoga of Recovery**, 6 Wed. eves., 6-8, starts May 6. **Zen Buddhist Temple**, 1214 Packard, (734) 761-6520. Email: annarbor@zenbuddhisttemple.org.

High school tennis champion available for lessons. Reasonable rates. Beginners and children welcome. (734) 476-0174.

Fun reading program for 3-5 year olds. 5-week summer program. Call (734) 502-7718 or www.funinreading.com.

Jesus & the Job Hunt: 5-wk. seminar/support group Wed. eves., starts May 6 at West Side United Methodist Church. Advice, insights on finding opportunities, building network, practicing for interviews as well as Bible study & encouragement. For unemployed or those who worry they could be. Sliding scale \$20-\$50 for the 5 wks. Questions, registration: generositygrows@yahoo.com

Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

Hypnotherapy for weight management, easy pregnancy, easy childbirth, stress, pain management, symptom management, IBS, nausea, phobias, anxiety, public speaking, addictions, smoking, money issues, relationship issues, writer's block, procrastination, confidence, stage fright, past life regression... and more.

Hypnosis Seminars \$50.00

Self hypnosis Sat., June 6
Weight management Sat., June 13
Performers and speakers Sat., June 20
Pregnancy and childbirth Sat., June 27

www.annarborhypnotherapy.com

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Change Your Thought Change Your Life

www.ActiveCoaching.biz
Sissel Bridges (734) 340-3766

Home

The Classifieds deadline for the June issue is May 11.

Professional Premium Handyman Plus

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Pet Care When You Can't Be There Kristina Taylor (734) 747-8259

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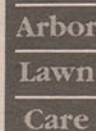
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This gorgeous custom-built home overlooks the 7th fairway at Stonebridge and is loaded with all the upgrades you've been hoping for. A great lot with extensive landscaping, large patio, beautiful plantings and expansive views. Interior features extremely open floor plan, with vaulted ceilings, large two-story great room, private den, stone floors, gourmet kitchen with maple cabinets and granite, luxury first-floor master suite, extra first-floor bedroom, and second-floor suite with rec. space. \$600,000. Visit our website at [Isellannarbor.com](http://sellannarbor.com)

Photo by J. Adrian Wylie

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NW ANN ARBOR - This gorgeous, custom-built home by Henry Landau rests on a 8+ acre country estate. Grounds include extensive landscaping, circle drive, and outbuilding. Home is rock solid with an all-brick exterior. Interior features include two-story living room, striking dining room with barrel ceiling, custom kitchen, dream master suite and finished walk-out basement. \$1,295,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



DIXBORO FARMS - Stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath new construction on a gorgeous 2-acre estate lot in this popular NE Ann Arbor neighborhood. Quality features everywhere including all brick exterior, cherry kitchen with granite counters, extensive custom molding and trim, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$899,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR - Truly spectacular 5-bedroom, 5 1/2-bath custom-built home resting on a stately 2.2 acre parcel just west of town. This home features every conceivable amenity including dream kitchen with maple cabinets and professional grade appliances, two-story family room, cherry trim and floors, luxury master suite, smart house technology, Gunite pool, 5-car garage space, and more. \$899,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Very special 5-bedroom, 5 1/2-bath custom-built home on a peaceful acre lot in York Township. This home has every feature and amenity you've been hoping for including all brick exterior, extensive landscaping, gourmet kitchen, paneled den, luxury first-floor master suite, nanny suite, and finished lower level with bar, rec room, and study. Wow! \$799,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Incredible custom-built home on a gorgeous 10-acre estate parcel just minutes from town. The land is absolutely beautiful with ample trees, river frontage, and upgraded out building. Interior features include two-story great room, custom kitchen with granite counters and professional grade appliances, all hardwood floors, and luxury master suite. \$569,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BARTON HILLS AREA - New construction just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor and U of M. This 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home on a peaceful 1.5 acre parcel features wonderful oversized rooms, ample hardwood floors, custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, luxury master suite. \$519,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ST. JAMES WOODS - Stunning 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath custom-built, all brick, 2-story loaded with all the upgrades you've been hoping for. Enjoy this quiet cul-de-sac location just minutes to I-94 and Ann Arbor. Interior features include two-story great room, oversized maple kitchen with granite and stainless appliances, luxurious first-floor master bedroom, den, and generous bedrooms. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BURNS PARK - This is not your typical Burns Park home. Gracious 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath custom-built contemporary overlooking the park!! You will be amazed at the quality features and incredible design of this true one-of-a-kind home. Custom kitchen, sun room, and den all have views of the park. Luxury master suite, spacious bedrooms, and finishable third floor. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - BRIARHILL - This 4-bedroom, 6-bath 2002 Showcase of Homes entry on a quiet, interior, cul-de-sac lot is loaded with quality features and amenities. You will love this home. Features include two-story foyer, custom kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, den, two-story family room, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. \$449,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - STONEBRIDGE - Wonderful 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath colonial on a peaceful cul-de-sac lot in the Saline school district. Nice lot with extensive landscaping and large deck. The interior of this home is perfect including two-story foyer, maple kitchen, open family room with fireplace, large formal spaces, den, master suite with sitting room, and finished lower level with rec room and bath. \$449,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Are you looking for a GORGEOUS wooded setting just minutes to Ann Arbor and I-94? This is it!! Enjoy the complete seclusion and privacy of this 2.1 acre wooded setting. The 3-bedroom, 2-bath home features great room with vaulted ceiling, spacious oak kitchen, study loft, and private master suite. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BRASS CREEK - This custom-built home rests on one of the most beautiful sites you will find. Gorgeous acre lot with extensive landscaping, treed backyard, deck, and patio. Interior is sharp with two-story great room, den, open kitchen with granite island, first-floor master suite, and finished walk-out basement. \$379,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STRAWBERRY LAKE - Nice 2-bedroom summer cottage on the Huron River chain of lakes. Great setting on the lake with a small bay off the lot, very quiet, and full access to 6 all-sport lakes. Home makes a great summer get-away or re-build your dream home in this gorgeous setting. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



U-M CAMPUS - Perfect student rental within close walking distance to the Athletic Campus and Central Campus. Six-bedroom single family home perfect for a group of students to share. This home has a great rental history and represents a great opportunity to own income property. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - HICKORY POINTE - Fantastic 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath colonial in one of the area's most desired subs. Great neighborhood with community pool. This home is top-notch throughout including extensive hardwood flooring, large kitchen with island, family room with fireplace, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. \$289,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



DEXTER - Perfect 5-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath two-story home on a peaceful acre lot in Stonyfield Acres. Great setting with extensive landscaping, privacy, and paver patio. The interior of this home sparkles featuring 9' first-floor ceilings, spacious kitchen, great room with fireplace, formal dining room, large master suite, and bonus room. You will love it. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - This 2-bedroom, 2-bath detached condo features one of the best golf course views you'll find. Incredible tee-to-green view of the #8 hole at Stonebridge. The interior of this unit has been completely redone. Features include maple kitchen cabinets with granite counter tops, Brazilian cherry floors, and stainless steel appliances, new master bath, and partially finished basement. \$259,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR - Hard to find 2-bedroom, 2-bath handyman special on a wooded 1.5 acre lot on Huron River Dr. Great opportunity for fix up, major addition, or tear down of this ranch style home on Ann Arbor's west side. Great location just minutes to downtown and U of M. \$249,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GRASS LAKE - This 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath former builder's model home in Sandhill Estates is loaded with quality upgrades. Great design featuring two-story foyer, open great room, large kitchen with island, first-floor master suite with sitting area, and three-car garage. \$249,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - DEXTER - Very sharp 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo in one of the area's sharpest looking complexes. These units were built with great flair inside and out. Features include raised ceilings throughout, great room with fireplace, convenient den, spacious kitchen, nice master suite, and walk-out basement. \$249,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



FORD LAKE FRONTAGE - Enjoy panoramic bluff top views of Ford Lake from this remodeled and expanded 3-bedroom colonial. Lake front living at its finest with multiple decks and patios and a gorgeous all-sports lake. Home features added family room with vaulted ceiling and hardwood floor, central kitchen, spacious master bedroom, and finished basement. \$229,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - TRAVIS POINTE - Great 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo backing to the woods in Ann Arbor's best country club neighborhood. Enjoy being a short walk to all that Travis Pointe has to offer. Golf, tennis, swim, and more. Enjoy this peaceful setting from the large deck or screened porch. Interior features living room with fireplace, spacious kitchen with granite counter tops, and spacious master suite. \$229,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



OLD WEST SIDE - Walk to downtown Ann Arbor from this classic Old West Side 3-bedroom, 1-bath two-story home. Washtenaw Dairy and Jefferson Market are just blocks away as well. Great home at a great price featuring extensive hardwood floors, large living room, spacious formal dining room, updated kitchen, and good sized bedrooms. \$179,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



HAISLEY ELEMENTARY - Great 3-bedroom, 1-bath cape on a very low traffic, quiet street. Walking distance to schools, parks, and downtown. This home is in great shape with current décor, hardwood floors, and cove ceilings. Spacious master suite with ample closets, kitchen with ceramic tile floor, and large back yard. \$179,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

Matt Dejanovich has been a resident and realtor in Ann Arbor and its surrounding communities for over 20 years. In that time he has become one of the top producing agents at Real Estate One, the largest real estate brokerage in the state. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his customers.

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GLENBOROUGH – This stately, custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home rests on one of the finest lots in the neighborhood. Home has incredible presence set far back from the street with extensive landscaping, flowing stream, and pond frontage. Interior features wonderful contemporary flair with two-story great room, cherry kitchen with granite counters, first-floor master suite with sitting room, and finished walk-out basement. \$760,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



COLLEGE HEIGHTS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home built in 2006 walking distance to UM Central Campus and UM hospitals. Gorgeous home featuring custom kitchen with upgraded stainless steel appliances and granite, family room with built-ins, luxury master suite, and finished basement. \$749,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR – This gracious 5-bedroom, 4-bath custom-built colonial rests on a peaceful 2.2 acre setting just minutes from town. Incredible features include two-story foyer and family room, custom kitchen with granite counter tops, oversized master suite with dream closet, and finished basement. You will love it! \$699,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – STONEBRIDGE – Gorgeous custom-built home overlooking the 7th fairway at Stonebridge. Very current home loaded with quality upgrades inside and out. Great lot with extensive landscaping, large patio, and expansive views. Interior features extremely open floor plan with vaulted ceilings in most rooms, two-story great room, gourmet kitchen with granite, luxury first-floor master suite, and unique bonus room. \$600,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STRAWBERRY LAKE – This 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home rests on one of the finest lake front settings you will find anywhere. Enjoy gorgeous bluff top views from the large deck and year-round sun room of one of the area's best all-sports lakes. Home features substantial updates including cherry kitchen with Corian counters, all new baths with granite, fresh paint, and finished walkout basement. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



JACKSON – incredible 4-bedroom, 4-bath custom-built home in the Sanctuary at Brills Lake, one of Jackson's most desired subs. This 2004 Parade of Homes entry is loaded with custom features and amenities including 2-story family room with wall of windows, kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, den, luxury master suite, and gorgeous wooded lot. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



PINCKNEY – Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home with 90 ft. of frontage on Highland Lake. This home is just paradise with panoramic views of lake and 11,000 acres of state owned land. The interior is loaded featuring oversized great room, maple kitchen with granite, and dream master suite. \$469,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible lot borders trees and a stream with oversized patio and extensive landscaping. Gorgeous interior features large great room with vaulted ceiling, gourmet kitchen, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished basement. \$449,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – STONEBRIDGE – Incredible find!! Wonderful 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home backing to protected common area in one of the area's most desired subs. Enjoy the wooded views from your large deck in this quiet cul-de-sac location. Interior is loaded with flair including 2-story great room, large kitchen with oversized eating space, formal dining, luxury first-floor master suite, and large bedrooms. \$359,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING – CHELSEA – Spectacular 3-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath custom-built ranch on a peaceful 2.2 acre setting, just north of town. Great quality home loaded with upgrades and amenities. Features include great room with vaulted ceiling, large kitchen, parlor, luxury master suite with sitting room, and finished basement with rec room, study, and bath. 2 1/2-car attached garage plus 3-car detached garage. Perfect for hobbies. \$359,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CENTENNIAL FARMS – This 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home in one of Saline's most desired subs is close to perfect. Great home loaded with all the features and upgrades you've been hoping for. Features include two-story great room, open kitchen with granite counters, first-floor master suite, spacious bedroom, finished basement with rec room and den, and fresh paint. \$329,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAUREL GARDENS – Highly desired 2-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath condo in NE Ann Arbor's most desired condo complex. Great location and setting deep within the neighborhood backing to trees and natural area. Interior features formal living and dining, flex use den/tv room, and master suite with two walk-ins and luxury bath. \$319,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MANCHESTER – Are you looking for your own private hideaway just 15 minutes from Ann Arbor? This is it! Gorgeous 5-acre wooded parcel with many old growth oak trees. Home features great room with vaulted ceiling and wood stove, open kitchen, 2 first-floor bedrooms, master suite upstairs with large loft, and partially finished basement with view out windows. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



WILDWOOD – This perfectly maintained and upgraded 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath colonial in one of Saline's most desired subs has all the features you've been hoping for. Gorgeous lot backing to woods includes extensive landscaping, large deck, and patio. The interior is perfect featuring open kitchen with granite, large family room, nice master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MANCHESTER – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on almost 11 pastoral acres is close to perfect. Custom-built by Don Gaddes, this home was built with extreme attention to energy efficiency and indoor air quality. Wonderful home with large great room, maple kitchen, nice master suite, and mostly finished basement with view out windows. \$275,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 3-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere. Incredible backyard view with fully developed pond including large deck, extensive patios, and gorgeous landscaping. The interior is sharp including great room with vaulted ceiling and two-story fireplace, spacious kitchen with Corian counters, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$269,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR DUPLEX – Great west side duplex walking distance to Allmendinger Park, U of M Stadium, and downtown. The property is currently owner occupied. One bedroom apartment pays \$600/mo. Classic raised ranch plan with lots of original character, large backyard, and 2-car attached garage. \$247,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR – This is not your typical Ann Arbor ranch. Backing to Pioneer woods, this home has been completely remodeled and expanded. Perfect for a single person or a couple, this home features a huge master suite overlooking the woods with upgraded bath, the backyard is all deck with sitting areas and complete privacy, finished basement, and more. \$239,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR SCHOOLS – Completely remodeled 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath colonial on a peaceful lot in Clubview subdivision. This home is just perfect featuring cherry kitchen with granite counter tops, spacious family room, oversized master suite with vaulted ceiling and attached bath, and finished basement. All hardwood floors, large backyard, and screened porch. \$229,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – Your own country oasis awaits you at this move-in condition 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home. Enjoy the gorgeous park-like setting just minutes from everything. This home is perfect and features living room with vaulted ceiling, family room with fireplace, and nice master suite. Gorgeous!! \$229,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – Rare find. Country ranch on a peaceful acre lot on the north side of Saline, just minutes to I-94. Solid brick ranch in need of some cosmetic updates. Great starter home includes large backyard, 2 car garage, living room, den, and full basement. \$169,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YPSILANTI – Great 4-bedroom, 1 1/2-bath ranch in College Heights. This is a wonderful home inside and out. Very pretty, fenced backyard with extensive landscaping and patio. Interior has been completely redone and features large living room, open kitchen, spacious dining room, fresh paint, new flooring, and finished basement. \$149,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE – Great 2-bedroom, 1 1/2-bath condo in perfect move-in condition. This unit has a great set of features and amenities. The highlights include cherry kitchen, spacious living room, spacious master suite with walk-in closet, and full basement. \$129,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – This 2-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath condo is one of the best values on the market today. Enjoy over 1,600 square feet of beautiful space, loaded with quality upgrades. Features include large great room, kitchen with vaulted ceiling, den, spacious master suite, crown molding, and numerous built-ins. \$99,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

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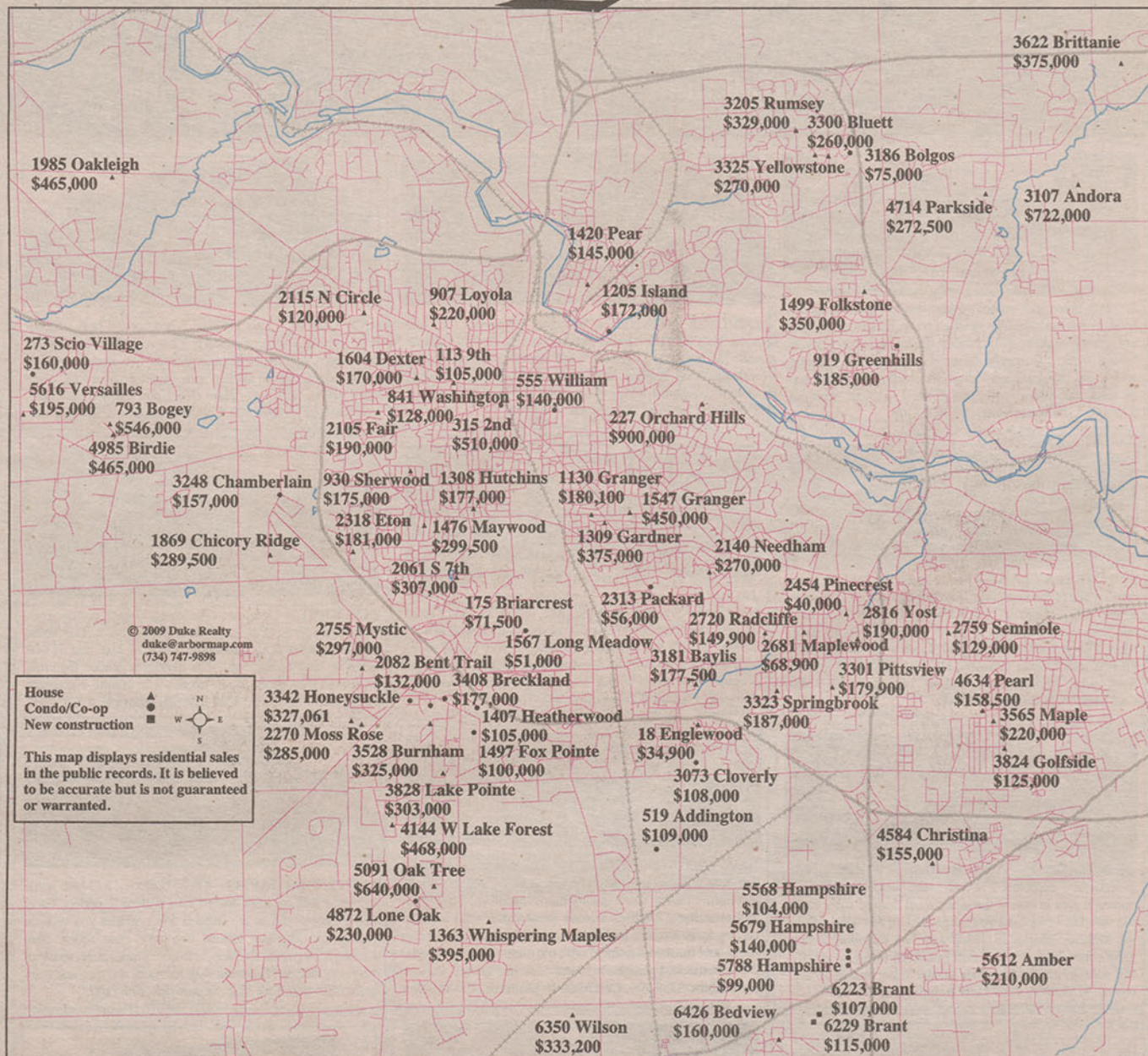
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MARCH 2009

HOME SALES



Condominium association fees can pay for a wide range of things; management, landscaping, and even utilities like water and sewer are often included. These

fees are so important they are factored into a mortgage application when trying to determine a borrower's ability to afford the monthly housing payment. But since the

services included in the fees vary significantly from condo to condo, it is hard to make apple-to-apple comparisons. Tower Plaza is serviced by elevators, for example, while the Village is blessed (some might say bedeviled) by a park-like setting that requires maintenance on a par with a golf course.

Condos as small as 400 square feet in Tower Plaza (555 E. William) and as large as 3,052 square feet at Heritage Ridge (near Huron High) also make comparisons difficult. So before ranking the sixty-four condos in the table (listed with their monthly fees), we adjusted for size by dividing the annual fee by the number of square feet in the models represented on our list.

At \$8.73 per square foot, the high-rise Tower Plaza has the most expensive annual condo fees in town. The Ponds at Stonebridge (on the southwest corner of Ellsworth and Lohr roads) is the most affordable, at 58¢. The median fee (half were more pricey, half less) was \$2.09 per square foot per year.

The comparison is based on the prevailing fees in 2008. Our source, the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors, does not guarantee the accuracy of its data, but it is generally reliable.

—Kevin Duke

#	Condo/Co-op	Sq Ft	Fee	Fee/Ft
1	Tower Plaza	400	\$291	\$8.73
2	Syndeco Plaza	1,787	\$844	\$5.67
3	Colonial Square	961	\$390	\$4.87
4	Geddes Lake	1,515	\$533	\$4.22
5	Ashley Mews	793	\$275	\$4.16
6	Riverside Park Place	866	\$292	\$4.05
7	Riverhouse	871	\$287	\$3.95
8	Arbor Heights	768	\$237	\$3.70
9	Parkwood	1,080	\$306	\$3.40
10	The Village	1,080	\$299	\$3.32
11	University Commons	1,484	\$404	\$3.27
12	Georgetown Commons	882	\$234	\$3.18
13	Walden Hills	1,014	\$259	\$3.07
14	Weatherstone	1,125	\$285	\$3.04
15	Briarcrest	983	\$249	\$3.04
16	Liberty Lofts	1,469	\$366	\$2.99
17	Oak Meadows	1,378	\$340	\$2.96
18	Laurel Gardens	1,587	\$388	\$2.93
19	Nature Cove	1,458	\$332	\$2.73
20	Walden Village	1,368	\$301	\$2.64
21	Oslund	2,185	\$480	\$2.64
22	Earhart Village	1,350	\$295	\$2.62
23	Sunward Cohousing	1,425	\$308	\$2.59
24	Walnut View	1,521	\$325	\$2.56
25	Weatherstone	1,415	\$282	\$2.39
26	Liberty Pointe	1,378	\$255	\$2.22
27	Alpine	1,280	\$235	\$2.20
28	Northbury	2,125	\$388	\$2.19
29	Turnberry Village	1,123	\$205	\$2.19
30	Main Street Commons	1,190	\$216	\$2.18
31	Summerfield Glen	1,079	\$189	\$2.10
32	The Crossings of AA	800	\$140	\$2.10

#	Condo/Co-op	Sq Ft	Fee	Fee/Ft
33	Boulder Ridge	2,149	\$372	\$2.08
34	Traver Lakes	1,508	\$255	\$2.03
35	Ridgmaar Square	2,500	\$420	\$2.02
36	Ashford Place	1,961	\$325	\$1.99
37	Rosewood Village	1,492	\$245	\$1.97
38	Newport West	2,485	\$402	\$1.94
39	Scio Village	1,586	\$240	\$1.82
40	Wellesley Gardens	1,341	\$197	\$1.76
41	Gallery Park	1,458	\$210	\$1.73
42	Northside Glen	1,094	\$156	\$1.71
43	Fox Pointe	1,382	\$197	\$1.71
44	Heatherwood	1,375	\$195	\$1.70
45	Chapel Hill	1,280	\$180	\$1.69
46	Barclay Park	1,416	\$188	\$1.59
47	Brentwood Square	1,563	\$206	\$1.58
48	Forest Creek	1,012	\$133	\$1.58
49	Parkside Commons	1,600	\$210	\$1.58
50	Oakbrook	2,242	\$292	\$1.56
51	Cloverly Village	1,380	\$179	\$1.56
52	Liberty Oaks	1,614	\$203	\$1.51
53	Madison Place	1,548	\$190	\$1.47
54	Nielsen Square	1,915	\$230	\$1.44
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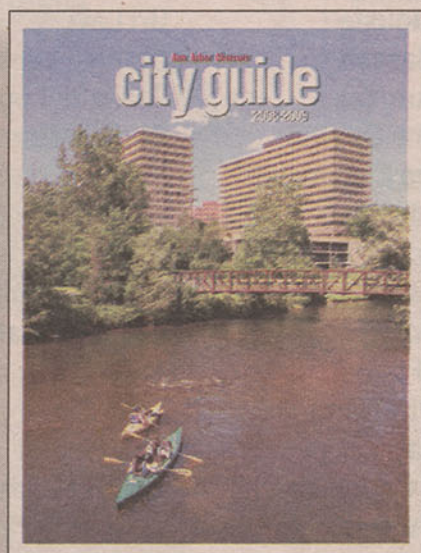


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	COMPLIMENTARY DESIGN	SPACE CLOSING	MATERIALS CLOSING	PUBLICATION
2009-2010 CITY GUIDE	Friday, May 15	Monday, June 15	Thursday, July 23	Monday, Aug. 10
2009-2010 COMMUNITY GUIDE	Thursday, July 30	Thursday, Aug. 13	Tuesday, Aug. 25	Wednesday, Sept. 9

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Marketplace Changes

by Tony McReynolds & Sally Mitani

Kerrytown's New Kitchen Store

The Hollanders step up

Tom and Cindy Hollander, who already own Hollander's paper goods emporium on the first floor of Kerrytown's Godfrey Building, and Hollander's School of Book & Paper Arts in the basement below it, are expanding upstairs with **Hollander's Kitchen & Home**.

The Hollanders never planned to open a kitchen store; it's just worked out that way. Mary Campbell, who owns Everyday Wine, opened an ill-fated cookware store in the same space in late 2006 and morphed it into a restaurant in 2007 before calling it quits last summer. Cindy says she and Tom used to joke about opening their

Cindy says she and Tom used to joke about opening their own kitchen store. "It was all just kind of kidding around—but then we just suddenly started taking it seriously."

own kitchen store there "because it's right above us. And [Kerrytown] management said, 'Well, why don't you take the space?' And I kind of kiddingly said, 'Well, make us an offer.' It was just kind of all kidding around—but then we just suddenly started taking it seriously."

The grand opening is planned for May 2 and 3, but they started business in April, selling cookware, high-end small appliances, and all kinds of kitchen utensils, plus glassware, dishware, tablecloths, towels, aprons, and more. The "Home" part of the name covers furnishings like occasional chairs, end tables, lamps, mirrors, clocks, artwork, and area rugs. They'll also have a garden section with patio furniture and accessories, along with a smattering of hardware from screwdrivers to wall fasteners. And that gorgeous kitchen that Campbell installed in the back won't go to waste—the Hollanders plan to host cooking classes starting next fall.

Tom thinks the new business dovetails nicely with the old one. "A lot of people who shop at our store are creative people," he says. "They like to take classes, like to work with their hands. And we feel like the kitchen area we're getting into kind of has that same feel."

They've reopened a long-closed central stairway so customers can move between floors without having to leave the store.



No joke: Tom and Cindy Hollander in their new kitchen and home store.

"That's kind of important to us so that it doesn't feel like two completely different stores," says Tom.

It's heady growth for a business that started out in 1991 selling handcrafted boxes and desk accessories in a 200-square-foot corner of Kerrytown's second floor. With the latest expansion, the Hollanders have 14,000 square feet spread over three floors.

Cindy still seems a little poleaxed by the leap they've taken, but says, "We've kind of always grown our business like that. We're kind of organic. If we see an opening, we go for it. We like to keep moving forward. We're not going to do something crazy. This is probably about as crazy as we want to be."

Hollander's Kitchen & Home, 415 North Fifth Avenue (Kerrytown Market & Shops, second floor). 226-1885. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. www.hollanders.com.

Closings Hit Campus

State Street area feels pain and rebirth

An eviction notice on the door of **Earl of Sandwich**, on State Street, pretty much explained everything, but former employee Andrew Schaeferle, on site cleaning up, rounded out the picture. He began with the two words on everyone's lips these days: "The economy." Then he gestured up and down campus's main street. "As you can tell, there are a lot less people on the street. **Joe's [Sub Shop]** is gone, the place around the corner next to **White's Market [Rio Wraps]** is gone." And they were. Phones for both were disconnected, and the owners couldn't be reached.

Of course it's not just food places that are hurting: on North University, **Beanie June**, the girly but hip mother-daughter-owned women's clothing boutique, closed

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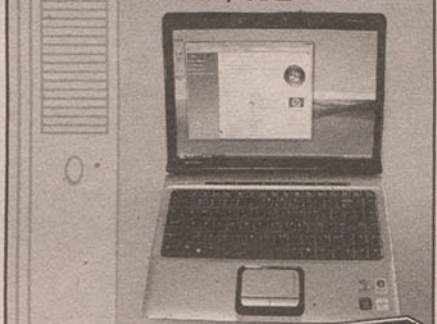
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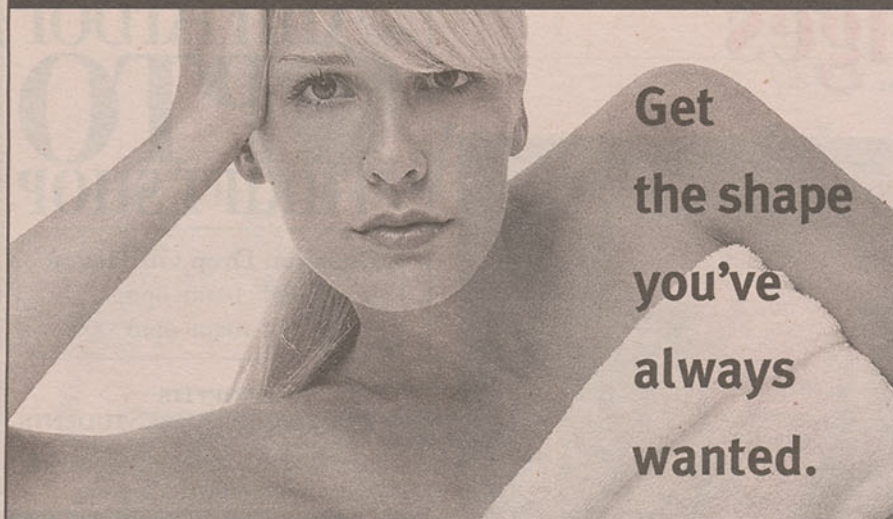
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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Busy man: Robert Campbell works full time at EMU as a food service manager and owns Irie Caribbean Kitchen in Canton. Now he's also reopened the Jamaican Jerk Pit—and moved the menu a couple of rungs upmarket.

recently. It was the third State Street area clothing store to fall this school year—Ana Banana went down last fall, followed by Steve & Barry's.

But even with "the economy," some hardy souls are still betting on the campus district. Two closed businesses are being revived under new ownership: local maize-and-blue specialist the **M-Den** is taking Steve & Barry's two-story space on State, and the **Jamaican Jerk Pit** reopened in April next door to Panera.

While the Jerk Pit looks the same—it's mainly a subterranean spot, with a haphazard, orange-and-green paint job and a reggae soundtrack—the menu has jumped a couple of rungs upmarket. New owner Robert Campbell grew up in Jamaica and owns the Irie Caribbean Kitchen in Canton. Pit employees Glendon Dixon and Della Styles say the new menu is a slightly streamlined version of Irie's offerings. Full plates of goat curry or escovitch tilapia with sides of rice, peas, and vegetables aren't exceedingly expensive at \$10 to \$12, but the fare is more elaborate than the snacky street-food menu of the old Pit. Wraps and fritters are on it too, in the \$6–\$7 range.

Campbell, thirty-six, is a busy guy. In addition to owning the Irie, he works full-time at EMU as a food service manager and has worked the last four Olympics putting on special events for U.S. medal winners. What possessed him to take on the Jamaican Jerk Pit too? "Because I'm crazy," he sighs. "No, uh, wait, because I have a passion for this kind of cooking and

I wanted to bring it to more people. . . ." He seemed to be struggling to find some sort of press-release answer that wasn't in his nature.

Campbell says he's planning on trying for a liquor license for the Jerk Pit, but until then the nonalcoholic drinks are plenty enticing: Della points out the soursop nectar, coconut water, guava carrot juice, ginger beer, and more ambiguously flavored concoctions named Vitamalt, Cola Champagne, and Reggae Medley. All under \$3, they're cheaper and rarer than a pina colada.

Next door, at the corner of Thayer and North University, **Panera Bread** opened its fifth Ann Arbor location in mid-March. It's there because Sam Roumanis got tired of cooking.

Roumanis, sixty-five and a longtime

Ann Arbor restaurateur, has deep roots in the city's homegrown restaurant scene. He used to own Cottage Inn, he still has a hand in restaurants as diverse as Gratz, the Chop House, and Carlyle Grill, and he's more than paid his dues in the kitchen.

So when he and his brother Tom bought the former Comerica Bank building at 777 North University in 2006, they briefly considered opening another restaurant of their own. Briefly. "We worked restaurants our whole lives," Tom says. "Enough is enough." So instead, he went looking for a tenant. After considering many different chains, he picked Panera because he thought it was onto something with its menu of soups, salads, deli sandwiches on house-baked bread, and host of baked goods from Danishes to bear claws and

Panera Bread opened its fifth Ann Arbor location at the corner of Thayer and North University in mid-March. It's there because Sam Roumanis got tired of cooking.

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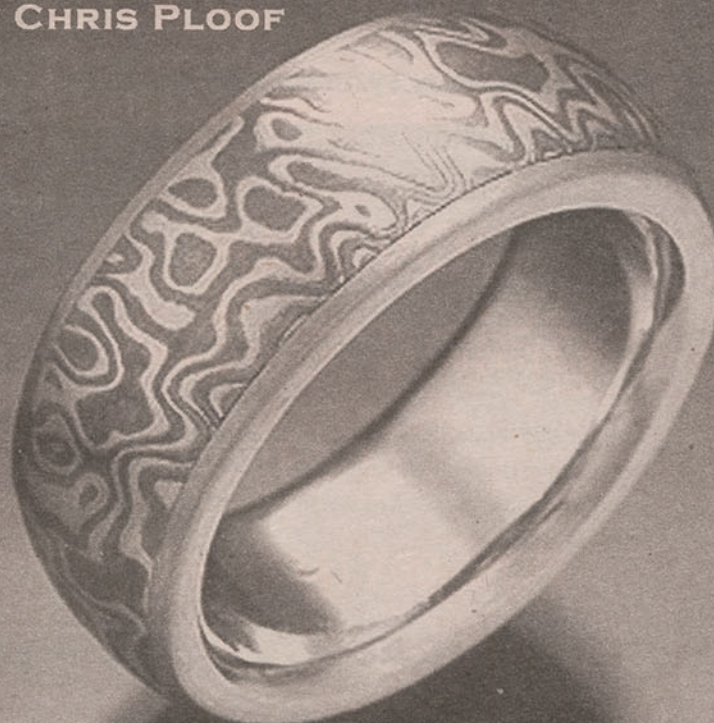
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Panera Bread, 777 North University. 332-3402. Mon.-Sat. 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 7 a.m.-8 p.m. www.panerabread.com.

A New Home for Four Directions

The Freedmans move up Main Street

After fifteen years at 329 South Main, Alan Freedman took **Four Directions** in a new direction at the end of March—one block north, to 211 South Main. The move's been in the works for a couple of years, ever since Freedman found out that his landlord, who already owned the building that housed Four Directions, bought the building next door. "I saw the blueprints," says Freedman. The plans called for connecting the buildings by breaking through the adjoining walls on the second floor—right above his shop. "I said, boy, we're going to be out of a home if this ever happens."

He started looking for a new space, and when the old Voila clothing store opened up in the fall of 2007, he approached the building's owner about leasing it. The owner offered to sell, not rent, the retail space to Freedman, with plans to turn the upper floors into a condo. When Freedman realized his new mortgage payments would be about half of what he was paying in rent, he jumped on it. And then he sat on it—the new space stayed empty for another year and a half until the lease on his old space ran out in March.

Moving was fairly painless: most of the inventory was transported by van and truck through the alley, and the rest was trundled down the sidewalk on handcars. "We didn't even pack up our expensive vases," laughs Freedman, who is fifty-three. "It was easier just walking them down the street."

In addition to vases, Four Directions carries collectible fossils, minerals, pottery, gemstone globes, rocks, metal art, jewelry, and more. Collecting rocks and fossils is Freedman's passion. His wife Karen, also fifty-three, works at Four Directions, too, indulging her own passion by supervising the jewelry, which accounts for about half their sales.

At heart Alan remains a collector. "When we go [on buying trips], I still have my own collection and put aside pieces for myself," he says. He used to sell every piece he found—and now regrets it. "When I first started off in business, I wish some of them I would have kept."

Four Directions, 211 S. Main. 996-9250. Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. www.fourdirectionsa2.com.

Briefly Noted

Gwen Kassa bought the **University Flower Shop** in Nickels Arcade from longtime owner Dolly Holek in February. Holek, who's in her early sixties, owned the store for twenty years and she'll be working there part time for at least a year as Kassa's sole employee.

Kassa, forty-five, worked at the *Ann Arbor News* for seventeen years as its human resources manager before leaving two years ago to pursue what she calls her "landscape vocation."

"I always had a passion for gardening and planting flowers," she explains, "and I figured at this point in my life I might not get another opportunity." She studied for and received her landscape design certification with the intention of opening her own landscape design and gardening service, but she put those plans on hold when she learned the flower shop was up for sale.

It's been a flower shop for fifty years (its many owners include a member of the Metzger family) and does everything from selling flowers to providing floral arrangements for weddings and other special events.

Kassa is just happy to be in business for herself. "I had been wanting to do it for about the last five years I was at the *Ann Arbor News*. I just decided to take that leap." With the paper's imminent closing, she adds, "In hindsight, it was probably good timing."

University Flower Shop, 7 Nickels Arcade. 668-8096. Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Sun. www.universityflowershopannarbor.com.

In early April, three of the four **No Thai!** partners were sprawled on chairs in their newest No Thai! on Plymouth Road in the Courtyard Shops, waiting for a building inspection, and looking like a tableau of slacker indolence. Except that they're opening their third restaurant in about as many years, so at least someone here must be a Type A, though it's hard to say who. Victor Kim, who handles IT and accounting, was fiddling with his laptop. Noerung Hang, head chef, wandered outside for a cigarette. Jeff Cho, human resources and scheduling, laconically volunteered to handle the unexpected drop-in Marketplace Changes interview. Fourth partner Brian Kim (no relation to Victor), who handles "aesthetics, branding, and logo," wasn't there, but his contribution was felt in the paint color, a somehow simultaneously soothing and energizing light green called "celery bunch."

Cho confirmed that they were pretty calm about opening their third restaurant. There won't be any menu changes: they knocked out their concise menu of Thai fast food when they opened the first restaurant on South University and haven't seen any reason to change it.

The new location will seat thirty to forty, but the kitchen is huge. Cho explains they will use the space to centralize the food prep. Meat and vegetables will all be cut here and ferried to the other, much small-

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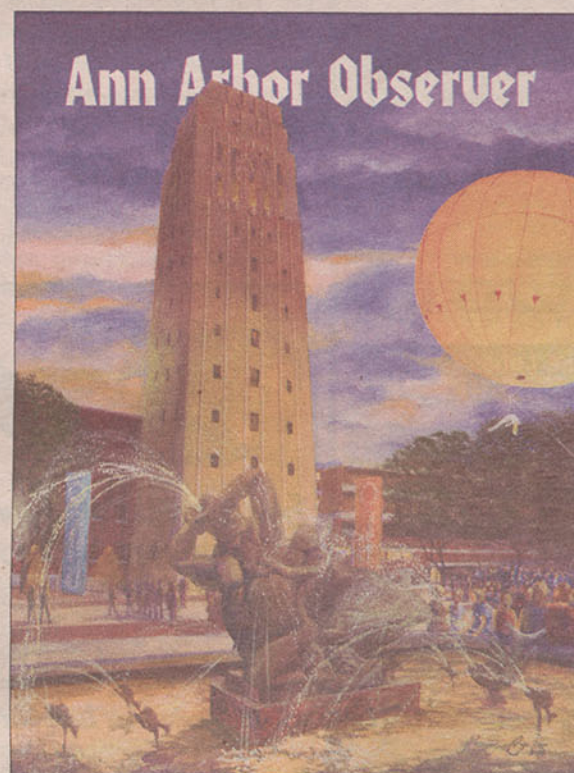
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times readers say "happy mother's day" with brunch!

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Insiders report seating for the Mother's Day brunch at Zingerman's Roadhouse is filling up fast! Sources predict one of the most in-demand items on the full-flavored menu is the Roadhouse's exclusive Grits 'n' Bits Waffle. This is a Southern version of the Dutch classic: waffles filled with bits of Anson Mills' organic grits, Vermont cheddar and Arkansas peppered bacon, served with Ralph Snow's Michigan maple syrup. View the brunch menu in its entirety at www.zingermansroadhouse.com. Reserve a spot for this popular event now by calling 734.663.3663!



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Reports confirm Zzang! bars are now available in more than 60 retail locations and counting from coast to coast. Surveys indicate that number is likely to continue growing, resulting in a full-flavored landslide. Check www.zingermansbakehouse.com for updates.

Marketplace Changes *continued*

er No Thais. "That was our major goal in getting a place this big, but we have high hopes for this location, just like we did for the Kerrytown location. They're all completely different locations. Here you don't have the foot traffic, but I think this is an area of growth for Ann Arbor. Campus is pretty full now. So this was a good area to get tapped into."

The four partners were college friends (they're now around thirty), and three of the four live together. Victor Kim is married and lives with his wife on the north side of Ann Arbor, while the others share a house near Briarwood. And if you envision the three bachelors standing over the sink eating No Thai! takeout, banish the thought. They rarely touch the stuff. "We eat like normal people," says Cho. "In fact, we grill almost every Sunday."

No Thai!, 1745 Plymouth Road. 663-8080. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. noon-10 p.m. www.nothai.com.

"Our basic premise is that people come to a Foot Solutions store because they're looking for a solution for their feet," says Michael Bell, who with his wife, Dana, just opened a **Foot Solutions** franchise in the shopping strip in front of Quality 16 theaters.

Michael Bell discovered shoe ergonomics while working in a ski shop in Colorado, when he found he had a genius for fitting ski boots. Now he's a board-certified pedorthist—that is, someone who can make doctor-prescribed shoe inserts. While that may sound like a niche business, pedorthists don't see it that way. "Most everyone can use an insole, whether it's an accommodative insole or a functional insole," he says. "Accommodative" is pedorthist-speak for something, usually bought off the rack, that makes you more comfortable, as opposed to the functional insole that helps the foot move differently—those are mostly doctor-prescribed.

A visit to Foot Solutions most likely begins with a free thirty-to-forty-five minute assessment of your foot situation. You'll be questioned, measured, palpated, and finally escorted to an electronic scanner that eventually coughs up a colorful array of graphs, charts, and images—yours to keep—indicating where your feet and gait fall short of the ideal.

Though the 250-store chain aims to provide one-stop shopping for any foot problems, what it looks like is a shoe store. The shoes on display are mostly sandals and walking shoes in a chunky, healthful, wholesome style. All can accommodate orthotics—even the gorgeously elegant made-to-order Tower & Johnson men's dress shoes.

Michael says the most popular shoe in the store is probably the Chung Shi brand. With its rocker-bottom heel it's as identifiable as an Earth Shoe or Birkenstock. The heel propels you forward, Dana says, "forcing the foot through a natural gait cycle. It helps a lot of problems: plantar

fasciitis, heel pain, lower back pain." Dana has an M.B.A. and a master's in public health and is close to becoming a board-certified pedorthist as well.

Foot Solutions, 3780 Jackson Rd., Suite D. 998-3668. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Sun. (also by appointment). www.footsolutions.com/annarbor

A few months ago, when the Kasham brothers closed both Big Moe's Coney and Greeko's Coney-Grill, they observed that east Ann Arbor was glutted with coney islands and diners—they named six that had opened within a year in a half-mile radius of Big Moe's. Now there's one less. Naser Derneika has subleased his east-side **King of Queens Coney Island** to Jamal el Mokadem and his uncle Abbas el Mokadem. The two have turned it into **Kaboba's**, swapping eggs over easy for cheap and kid-friendly Middle Eastern eats.

The el Mokadems both work full time as engineers, but have always wanted to own a restaurant (one of them is usually there in the evening). Keli, Jamal's wife, was waiting tables the afternoon we stopped in, though she doesn't have any more time on her hands than they do—she's a full-time nursing student with four young children. Still, she found time to quickly paint a picture of the restaurant's mission: cheap, fun food and no tipping. "We have

Naser Derneika has subleased his east-side King of Queens Coney Island to Jamal el Mokadem and his uncle Abbas el Mokadem. The two have turned it into Kaboba's, swapping eggs over easy for cheap and kid-friendly Middle Eastern eats.

four children, and you have to think of things to eat that are creative"—hence, the "shish kapeanut" and "shish colada," two recipes she, Jamal, and the kids invented at home. Both are just \$2.99, as are a bunch of other, more traditional, Middle Eastern sandwiches, most with generous servings of grilled, marinated meat and a dollop of rice wrapped in a pita. Vegetarian sandwiches are only \$2.49. Full-meal versions are around \$9.

As for the no-tipping policy, Keli points out that McDonald's and other counter-service restaurants pay real wages and don't do tips. But it's taken some training to get customers used to the idea at a restaurant with table service. "At first people would say, 'No, really, we have to tip,' and so we'd give them food for it. I mean, someone would leave two dollars, and we'd give them a few pieces of baklava. Now that we have regular customers, they understand and they're really appreciative."

Kaboba's, 4003 Carpenter Rd. 879-1134. Daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m. www.kabobas.com.

Closings

Liz Zimmerman posted a note at her **Flying Sheep Yarns** shop saying "I'm sorry to say I have to close the shop. I'll be here until March 31st at least and I can be reached by email." But she didn't respond to our email.

Flying Sheep was one of three shops in Ann Arbor specifically dedicated to knitting (Knit A Round on Plymouth and Busy Hands on Main are the others). Of the three, the little shop on South Industrial was the least expensive. Perhaps that was the problem, speculates Esther Heitler, who teaches knitting locally: "The discount places, I'm sure, cut into her business—places like Jo-Ann's [Fabrics]. She had yarn that was accessible, like [the brand] Encore. I sent my students there, because for beginners you want to have yarn that's not too expensive for a first project."

As noted last month, Dream On Futon on Ashley was scheduled to close at the end of April. Now **Dragon's Lair** has announced it will leave its building on Liberty near Stadium at the end of May.

Sandy Cadotte-Keys and Robert Keys started out in Kerrytown in 1984, and they claim theirs is the oldest futon store in the United States. They did well enough for a while to buy their own building, the former Leslie Office Supply on West Liberty. But, says Sandy, "we haven't made a profit since 9/11. Since then it's been more debt, more debt, more debt."

And lately it's been particularly grim. "We lost our less wealthy people when gas prices went up last year, but then after the Wall Street bailout, it's like, pull the shades. The rich people quit buying too," she says. "No one's doing great in the furniture business these days. The people that are actually doing OK in the furniture business are the ones where grandpa had everything all paid for two generations ago."

They aren't in that category. Cadotte-Keys says they're a little ambivalent about retiring, but "at some point you have to be practical. My dad and my husband's dad died in their sixties. Well, we're in our sixties, and we're going like, 'Dang! Time to let go and have a little fun.'"

For futon fans, the silver lining is that closing sales make this a darn good time to buy a futon. And for fans of the tiny Tienda la Libertad/Liberty Market a few doors down, there's another silver lining: Tienda owners Alain Benighil and Beth Langenderfer have bought the Dragon's Lair building. They plan to move across the driveway in June with an expanded grocery section and possibly a few new services yet to be determined.

Got a retail or restaurant change? Send email to sallymitani@gmail.com or tonymcreynolds@tds.net, or leave voice-mail at 769-3175, extension 320.

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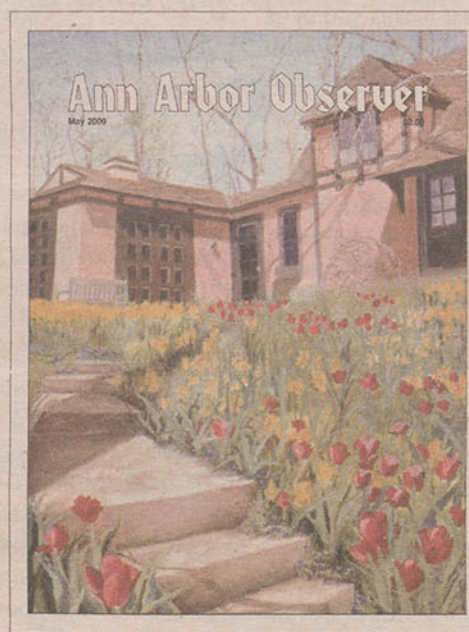
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Restaurant Reviews

Beezy's

Food and community

I'd heard so much buzz about Beezy's that I was surprised to find so little flash to this Ypsi café. But maybe that's the point—Bee Mayhew has created something simple and real, with a lot of heart.

Beezy's namesake creator is a thirty-one-year-old with a ferocious strength of will, a finely tuned business plan, and an angel investor—one of her favorite customers when she worked at Petoskey's Roast and Toast café, who, she says, "turned out to be a gazillionaire." Launched last November, with an aim of providing "simple, honest food," and with dedicated service from an offbeat, friendly crew, Beezy's attracted an instant, well-deserved following.

Mayhew's communitarian café is housed in a graceful 1865 brick Italianate building next to a storefront Pentecostal music school, across from a strip joint, a couple of doors down from the Dreamland Theater, and not far from the local-food advocates at Growing Hope. Clearly, there are a lot of different constituencies in the neighborhood, but it feels like most of them could find happiness here, at least in the form of a sandwich and a cup of coffee.

It's a handsome space, but not in a glossy-magazine kind of way that makes people feel insufficiently cool. Mayhew painted some of the plaster walls a sunny yellow accented with eggplant and steely blue trim but left unpainted the brick wall that runs the length of the dining room. She added floors of recovered ash wood—from trees felled by the emerald ash borer—and exposed the original tin ceiling.

Much of the sandwich making takes place behind the counter in the main room, which intensifies the social spin. It makes a difference when you can interact with the person preparing your food, when she asks you afterwards as you pour more coffee from the self-serve bar, "You had the breakfast burrito, right? Was it OK?"

It was way more than OK—delicious, in fact.

The burrito is one of the ten or so breakfast plates on the chalkboard menu, the rest of which is devoted to sandwiches, soups, and salads. Canada-born, Mayhew grew up all over before settling in Michigan, putting down roots in Petoskey before replanting herself in Ypsilanti. With the zeal of one who picked the place she wants to live, Mayhew is an enthusiastic locovore, but not doctrinaire or elitist. The businesswoman in her considers price and quality as well as geography: she's the first restaurateur I've talked to who proudly points to Gordon Food Service as a supplier: "They're a huge Michigan company with good prices and a lot of great products from here."

This practical approach helps her keep prices reasonable, but she also shops much closer to home: the tortilla in that \$5.95 breakfast burrito comes from nearby Dos



Hermanos Market. Mayhew stuffs it with local eggs and wonderfully robust Dos Hermanos chorizo, adds a tangy grated cheddar, and rolls it tightly. A scattering of home fries with a deep shiny cast delivers exotic flavors like cumin and paprika and a pepper blend from Alden's Mill House in Antrim County.

I liked the breakfast plate, too, a blue-collar start to the day, with eggs, potatoes, crisp apple-wood-smoked bacon, and toast. In a way that makes the place feel like Mom's kitchen, if you want the eggs any way other than scrambled, you're out of luck. That's not to say Mayhew isn't flexible—she whipped up a good-looking custom vegan tofu burrito topped with sautéed veggies for the table next to ours—it's just that she has a lot to cook on one four-burner stove.

Every day Mayhew makes two soups, one with meat and one vegetarian. Her chicken soup is exuberant, laced with lots of tarragon and plenty of carrots, celery, and chunks of breast meat. Since the soups are self serve and held in a steam pot, the broth-based soups may be a better choice than the cream soups. The cream of asparagus I tasted had gone a little too thick by late afternoon, but though it lost points on consistency, it still had excellent flavor. On another visit, the mulligatawny really didn't taste like any mulligatawny I've ever had, but it was nevertheless a good concoction, with dark- and light-meat chicken and vegetables in a zippy broth.

For about \$7, you can pair a big bowl of soup with any half sandwich or small salad. "Small" is relative—a small "Beezy's Salad" was plentiful, a deep bowl of mixed greens, thinly sliced red onions, homemade croutons, slices of roast chicken, a scoop of egg salad, lots of crumbled bacon, and just the right amount of ranch dressing.

Mayhew bakes fifteen to twenty-five loaves of bread daily—sourdough, rye, cracked wheat, and veggie—and the sandwich slices are hand-hewn, thick, and uneven. The fillings make liberal use of fresh herbs. I found myself going back for the egg salad on soft cracked wheat, the bread

providing a fine platform for a retro mustardy mix reminiscent of deviled eggs. The "Chicksilanti" is delicious, with clean-tasting roasted chicken and lots of celery, mayo, and fresh herbs. It's "topless"—that is, open-faced—in a nod to Déjà Vu across the street.

Mayhew bakes a few sweets from scratch or almost scratch—scones, lemon bars, and cinnamon buns—none of which I tried. She gets brownies and cupcakes from Erin Kelley's tarte bakery, and coffee cake from Tim Edinger of Old World Bakery. I did sample Beezy's coffees, which are very good; Mayhew uses Intelligensia coffee beans, roasted in Chicago.

Beezy's predecessor in this space, the Oasis Café, a project of Belleville's Power Centre Church International, aimed to provide affordable warm meals and a friendly gathering space. For whatever reason, that model didn't work, but it seems like Beezy's has taken on a similar role. It's one of those places, like Zingerman's (of which Mayhew is an alumna), that can lift a neighborhood. It is already an integral part of the social fabric and even contributes to the neighborhood agricultural scene. Mayhew sends her scraps to be composted to the Growing Hope hoop house a few blocks away. Growing Hope sends back veggies like spinach and cilantro grown right down the street. You may not know all these back stories when you eat at Beezy's, but their sum shines through in the dining experience.

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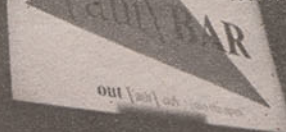
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Restaurant Reviews *continued*

Blue Nile

Ethiopian hospitality

I think sometimes that what makes America the shining city on a hill is the glow of all the restaurant signs of brave immigrants who've come here to redefine their future—and ours. Twenty years ago, the Blue Nile was Ann Arbor's first portal to Ethiopia, and it is still the only Ethiopian restaurant in the city. Though it feels less exotic in today's more cosmopolitan field, when we dropped by after several years' absence, we were in many ways delighted by the experience, if sometimes overwhelmed by the fare.

Bathed in shades of ochre, deep red, and dark green, and decorated with geometric designs and folkloric paintings, the spacious room is welcoming and comfortable. Seating is in deep booths or at a *mesob*, a colorful woven basket of a table. Mesobs are built to hold only the communal tray from which everyone eats; small side tables handle drinks. Though I'm generally on the side of authenticity and adventure, I admit to liking the idea of the mesob more than the reality. This is such a communal meal—particularly at dinner—that it encourages hanging around and yakking afterwards, and for that, booths serve as a much better lounging venue.

The evening menu is simple and straightforward. It consists of four meat and seven vegetarian dishes, a salad, and a few desserts. Dinners are served communally and priced by the person. We chose the Ethiopian feast—meat plus vegetables—but a slightly less expensive vegan feast is also an option.

Before dinner the waiter brought a tray of steaming hot washcloths for our hands. Then he delivered a tray of rolled injera bread—soft, sourdough griddlecakes that are torn into strips and used in place of cutlery to pick up bites of food. This was followed by an injera-lined platter on which the eleven dishes were displayed in small mounds of various earthy shades and contrasting textures, arranged as carefully as a still life.

In general, the food was not as spicy as I've had in other Ethiopian restaurants. And the hotter dishes, though not particularly fiery, packed a much more desirable punch. The two meat-based *wat* stews,

a chicken *doro wat* and a beef *zizil wat*, were intensely flavorful. The vegetarian lentils and split peas tended to blandness and a dull similarity in taste and texture, but other vegetable preparations on the platter added contrast and interest, particularly the superb chopped collards with garlic and chiles, and the well-seasoned sautéed cabbage. Always there was that interplay between the spongy, faintly tangy injera and the stews and sauces.

After dinner, we lounged as the waiter kept refilling cup after cup of Ethiopian spice tea. The four of us split a piece of



Italian cream torte covered thinly with almonds and dusted with powdered sugar, rounding out an interesting evening.

After a few years when it was only open for dinner, the Blue Nile began offering lunch again in February, this time with table service and a menu that ventures into more fusionist territory.

We started well with a delicious vegetable soup. Among the main courses, we liked the "yedoro tibs cabernet," grilled beef sliced and served in a wine reduction. The stuffed chicken saltimbocca started out dry and bland, though it was lifted by an interesting sauce of herbs and roasted peppers, which the server remembered to bring about halfway through the meal. This time, the beef in the zizil wat was tough, although I managed to keep myself pretty happy with a side of collards and particularly fresh injera.

At lunch, in an almost empty dining room, service was hit or miss. Our waiter disappeared for long stretches and needed to be reminded of things like water requests and cream for coffee. At dinner, on the other hand, the service was one of the best parts of the evening. The waiter provided constant but unobtrusive care, and

the gracious owner, Habti Dadi, personally brought the tray of entrées to our table and explained each of the dishes, as if he were entertaining guests at home. He's the perfect host.

—Bix Engels

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table talk

After last winter, it's hard to believe there will be long, sultry nights when we will yearn for an ice cream. But if you can't wait for a double-dip mint-chip or a length of chocolate-almond bark, **Kilwin's** on Liberty is making it really easy with curbside and delivery service for its confections and quarts.

Karen Piehutkoski, who owns the store with daughter Chera Tramontin, says they started the service about a year ago, when it was so hard to find a place to park that people would repeatedly circle the block. "I thought people could just call, put in their order, and we'd wrap up a half-pound of raspberry creams or whatever and run them out," says Piehutkoski. "Unfortunately, now it's not hard to get a parking place."

Ann Arbor Kilwin's is the first franchise of the chain, which started in 1947 in Petoskey. Piehutkoski opened her shop in January 1983, in time for Valentine's Day. Back then, she says, downtown was in something of a slump, so everyone was excited about the new shop. They carry more than a hundred different chocolates and confections, all made on site or in the Petoskey kitchen. The ice cream, too, comes from Petoskey. They always have twenty-eight flavors on hand, though not always the same ones.

The curbside and delivery service has exposed an existential difference between chocolate seekers and ice creamers. Even though Piehutkoski says they'd be happy to deliver a load of cones to a car-full of needy screamers, so far the service has been mostly for boxed chocolates (this has "forgot-our-anniversary" written all over it). In contrast, "ice cream people want to come and get a cone and hang. It's part of the experience."

—B.E.

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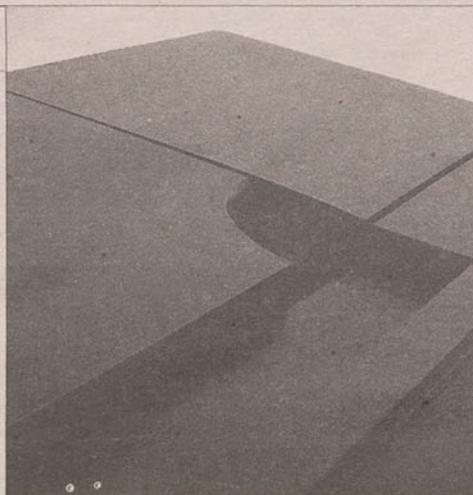
i spy

by Sally Bjork

It spins!

Several readers guessed the "new steed in town" featured in April had to live in the renovated U-M Museum of Art. In fact, the two larger-than-life found steel sculptures grace the foyer to Blau Auditorium in the U-M's new Ross School of Business building.

"It took three years to obtain the pieces," says Kathleen Dolan, art consultant and pro bono curator for the Business School. Dolan—whose husband, Bob, is the school's dean—orchestrated the procurement of nearly



200 artworks for the buildings. Dolan says that artist Deborah Butterfield had to repurchase one of the pieces from another buyer to reunite the pair, and a donor from San Francisco sealed the deal.

Named *With the Current* and *Forgetting the Other*, the figures fill the space with their presence like real horses do, massive and strong yet balanced and graceful.

Five entrants correctly identified the Butterfield horses and their location. Our random drawing winner, Nathan Rupp of Ypsilanti, will receive a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor*.



fake ad

by Jay Forstner

"I want to compliment you, this is the best Fake Ad I've ever seen," wrote Katherine Dunham, referring to the Fake Ad for the Antediluvian Food Pantry on p. 86 of the April Observer. "The Arborweb reference is artfully hidden [in the words 'Ann Arbor, we bake'] and the whole presentation is very persuading. Beyond that, it addresses through humor a serious point, as people lose jobs and are forced to eat cheaper, less healthy food, often heavy in fat and refined carbohydrates; not at the top of everyone's list of recessionary issues, to be sure, but a genuine concern nonetheless, especially for children. Nice job!"

"I think it's an excellent idea!" was our winner, chosen from 137 correct entries. She's taking her \$25 gift certificate to Planet Rock climbing gym.

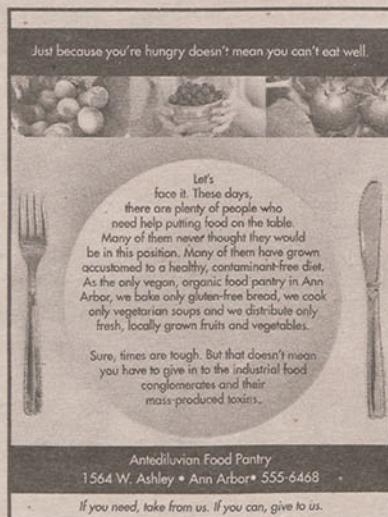
berg. "If there ever was a time and location for such an organization, it would be in this economy and in Ann Arbor."

"I must say, this ad is in very poor taste," disagreed Mike Carlin. "Not a funny joke, ever, but especially not during this economic time."

"The assumption that people who use food pantries can't be empowered about their own dietary needs and food choices is offensive," added Erica Melnyk-wycz. "Access to good food should be a human right." And for Alice J. Ralph, the ad "nauseate[d] with its irony" and was "dis-tasteful."

So was it the best Fake Ad ever, or was it in poor taste?

Maybe it was both. Brigitte Clement



Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Fax: (734) 769-3375. Email: backpage@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Tuesday, June 9, will be eligible for the May drawings.

You need a good night's rest.



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Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 43.

Films are on p. 48, **Nightspots** on p. 76.

Concert Music:

classical, religious, cabaret

- Soprano Norma Gentile & Ann Arbor Kirtan, May 1
- St. Paul Lutheran Church "John Rutter Festival," May 3
- Arbor Opera Theater concert, May 3
- Arianna String Quartet, May 3
- Women's Chamber Chorus, May 8
- Soprano Jennifer Goltz, May 14
- Ann Arbor Grail Singers, May 16
- Dexter Community Orchestra, May 17
- American Guild of Organists, May 17
- Cellist Andrea Yun, May 19
- Fair Isle String Quartet, May 19
- Voci dell' Anima Baroque ensemble, May 29
- Measure for Measure men's chorus, May 31
- Boychoir of Ann Arbor, May 31
- Violinist Gabriel Bolkosky & pianist Sarah Bob, May 31

Pop, Rock, Jazz, & Traditional Music

See **Nightspots**, p. 76, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, Firefly, & other clubs

- Adam Unsworth (jazz), May 1
- John Flynn (singer-songwriter), May 1
- Fall Out Boy (pop-punk), May 8
- Peter Mayer (singer-songwriter), May 8
- Ann Arbor Youth Chorale, May 9
- Wine, Women, & Song women singers collective, May 9
- Pianist Waleed Howrani, May 9 & 10
- Vocal Arts Ensemble, May 9
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, May 10
- Violinist Gloria Kitto Lewis & Friends, May 10
- Phoenix Ensemble, May 23 & 24
- Ellen Rowe Quartet (jazz), May 29

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *The Imaginary Invalid* (Huron High), May 1 & 2
- *Urinetown* (Pioneer High), May 1-3
- *Fiddler on the Roof* (Gabriel Richard High), May 1-3
- *Bleeding Red* (Purple Rose), every Wed.-Sun. through May 30
- *The Syringa Tree* (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre), May 7-10
- *Betrayal* (Michigan Classical Repertory), May 7-10 & 14-16
- *Cinderella* (Skyline High), May 8-10
- *The Merchant of Venice* (St. Augustine's Homeschool), May 15 & 16
- *Dandelion Wine* (Young Actors Guild), May 15-17
- Student Productions (Pioneer High), May 15-17
- *The Mousetrap* (Emergent Arts), May 20-24
- *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Explorers Drama Club), May 22 & 23
- *Vanities* (Redbud Productions), May 28-31
- *Into the Woods* (EMU Theatre Department), May 29-31
- *Finale 2009* (Huron High), May 29 & 30
- *Orpheus Descending* (Blackbird Theatre), May 29-31

Comedy & Performance Art

- Comic Laurie Kilmartin, May 7-9
- Comic Taylor Mason, May 9
- Comic Tony Deyo, May 15 & 16
- **FOUND** Magaine Denim & Diamonds Tour, May 16
- Comic Cleveland, May 22 & 23
- Comic Steve Burr, May 29 & 30

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Ypsilanti Street Rods car show, May 3
- Neutral Zone teen center "Breaking Curfew" showcase, May 8
- Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers show, May 9
- Spur of the Moment horse show, May 10
- Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club Springtime Invitational, May 14-17
- Ann Arbor Book Festival, May 15-17
- Avalon Housing "Hometown Hootenanny," May 15
- Rock Garden Society "Spring Gala," May 16 & 17
- Scio Township "Jackson Road Cruise," May 16
- Humane Society "Walk & Wag," May 16
- Jugglers of Ann Arbor festival, May 16
- Zen Buddhist Temple "Buddha's Birthday Celebration," May 16 & 17
- Ann Arbor Art Center "WineFest," May 17
- Antiquarian Book Fair, May 17
- Ann Arbor City Club classic auto show, May 23
- Children's Russian Club Cultural Show, May 23
- St. Nicholas Ya'ssoo Greek Festival, May 29-31
- Main Street "Taste of Ann Arbor & the Rest of the World," May 31

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Memoirist Me-Ling Hopgood, May 6
- Novelist Robert Underhill, May 21
- Poet & essayist Richard Tillinghast, May 27
- Novelist Rachel DeWoskin, May 28

Family & Kids' Stuff

- *The Cricket in Times Square* (Wild Swan Theater), May 1-3
- Magic Carpet family concert (Kerrytown Concert House), May 9
- *Hawk, I'm Your Brother* (Wild Swan Theater), May 17
- LaRon Williams children's concert, May 23
- *Jamie and Jordan* (Performance Network), May 23
- Ann Arbor Memorial Day Parade, May 25
- Rudolf Steiner School family festival, May 31

Miscellaneous

- Burns Park Run, May 3
- For Women Only Run, May 17
- Dexter-Ann Arbor Run, May 31

"Only in Ann Arbor"

Event of the Month

- One Voice Gospel Choir "Gospel Spaghetti," May 16

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